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WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING
OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL
COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

CAYMAN ISLANDS

Working paper prepared by the Secretariat

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I. GENERAL 1/

1. The Territory of the Cayman Islands consists of three islands: Grand Cayman, Cayman Brac and Little Cayman. The latter two islands are also known as the Lesser Caymans. The Territory has a total area of approximately 260 square kilometres, divided as follows: Grand Cayman, about 195 square kilometres; Cayman Brac, 39 square kilometres; and Little Cayman, 26 square kilometres. George Town, the capital of the Territory, is located on Grand Cayman.

2. According to the results of the census of population and housing conducted in October 1989, the resident population of the Cayman Islands was 25,355, compared with 16,677 in 1979 when the previous census was taken. Some 67 per cent of the population was Caymanian, compared with 81 per cent in 1979. Some 13,202 persons, or 52 per cent of the residents of the Territory, were Caymanians by birth. 2/ The census showed that 94.6 per cent of the population reside on Grand Cayman; 1,445 people live on Cayman Brac and 33 persons live on Little Cayman. The population of George Town, the capital, is 12,972. The labour force was recorded at 15,846, with the proportion of Caymanians amounting to some 61 per cent. The immigration trend resulted in a significant growth of the number of foreign work-permit holders residing in the Cayman Islands which, in 1989, was 8,842, compared with 6,708 in 1988. The largest group of foreign work-permit holders came from Jamaica (3,536), followed by the United States of America (1,626), the United Kingdom (1,187) and Canada (504). In an effort to avoid a serious imbalance in national origins of the population, the Executive Council in 1989 issued new guidelines under the Caymanian Protection Board to restrict applications for work permits from certain nationals. 3/

3. Hurricanes, which frequently occur in the Caribbean region, constitute major threats to the Territory. On 12 September 1988, the eye of Hurricane Gilbert passed about 48 kilometres south of Grand Cayman, causing $CI 16.5 million 4/ in property damage.

II. CONSTITUTIONAL AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

A. Constitution

4. An outline of the constitutional arrangements set out in the Cayman Islands (Constitution) Order, 1972, appears in the report of the Special Committee to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session. 5/ In brief, the Constitution provides for a Legislative Assembly consisting of the Governor (appointed by the Queen) who acts as President, 3 official members and 12 elected members. It also provides for an Executive Council consisting of the Governor as President, three official members and four members drawn from the elected members in the Legislature. The three official members of both bodies are the Financial Secretary, the Attorney-General and the Administrative Secretary. Matters relating to the civil service, defence, external affairs and security are the responsibility of the Governor. The juridical system is based on English common law. There are two courts, the Summary Court (Lower Court) and the Grand Court. The latter has

powers similar to a High Court in the United Kingdom. The Cayman Islands Court of Appeal consists of jurists from Jamaica and the Bahamas. 6/

5. Mr. Alan James Scott, former Deputy Secretary of Hong Kong, was sworn into office as the fifth Governor of the Cayman Islands in June 1987. 7/

6. During the 1989 Legislative Assembly session, the elected members, who had traditionally supported the policies of the Government, broke the existing consensus by moving towards establishing a parliamentary opposition. They advocated an increase in the size of the Executive Council, a possible removal of the Council by a simple majority vote in the Legislative Assembly and the need for the adoption of a bill of rights. The new situation in the Legislative Assembly led the territorial Government to ask for a review of the Constitution, as a means of overcoming the political polarization which could result in the establishment of political parties. 8/

7. In his speech from the Throne, delivered on 16 February 1990, the Governor of the Cayman Islands stated that the Government had decided to request the United Kingdom to conduct a constitutional review in the Territory. 9/

8. In October 1990, the United Kingdom Government appointed Mr. Frederick Smith, Chief of Justice of the Turks and Caicos Islands, and Mr. Walter Wallace, Foreign and Commonwealth Adviser on Dependent Territories, as members of the Constitutional Commission for the Cayman Islands. 10/

9. On 15 November 1990, the Legislative Assembly unanimously passed a motion raised by elected members for the establishment of a Select Committee on the Constitution. The Select Committee consisting of all elected members of the Legislative Assembly was to examine all "bipartisan views and opinions of legislators and the public" for further examination by the members of the constitutional Commission appointed by the United Kingdom. 11/

10. On 7 January 1991, the members of the Constitutional Commission arrived in the Cayman Islands to start the review work. In interviews with the press, the members stated that their responsibilities were "to ascertain and evaluate opinion in the Cayman Islands upon possible paths of constitutional evolution having regard to political developments in the islands and to the social and economic developments in the islands since the introduction of the present Constitution in 1972". They also stated that "the Commission had nothing to do with independence or internal self-government". 12/

11. On 8 January 1991, The Caymanian Compass published the text of a draft constitution of the Cayman Islands prepared by the Council of the Caymanian Bar Association. 12/

B. Political parties and elections

12. There are no officially recognized political parties in the Cayman Islands. General elections for the 12 elected seats in the Legislative Assembly are held every four years. The last elections were held on 14 November 1988.

C. Administration

13. Routine government operations are administered by seven portfolios, three of which are headed by the official members of the Executive Council and four by the elected members. The portfolios of the official members are: Finance and Development, headed by the Financial Secretary; Legal Administration, headed by the Attorney General; and Internal and External Affairs, headed by the Administrative Secretary.

14. As a result of a re-assignment of responsibilities by the Governor in the wake of the general elections of November 1988, the following departments have been entrusted to elected members: education, recreation and culture; tourism, aviation and trade; health and social services; and communications, works and natural resources. The elected members have responsibility for these portfolios with the principal secretaries implementing the policies and overseeing the administration of the departments within their portfolios.

D. External relations

15. The Government of the Cayman Islands cooperates directly with other Governments in the Caribbean and participates in regional conferences and projects for the Caribbean region established by Governments, international organizations and agencies. The Territory is a member of the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB).

16. Since 1988, four international conventions on the safety of shipping have applied to the Cayman Islands. The four conventions are: the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, and its 1978 Protocol; the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, and its 1978 Protocol; the International Convention on Tonnage Measurement of Ships, 1969; and the International Convention on Load Lines, 1966.

17. In 1989, the United States Senate ratified the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty, which was signed by the Governments of the Cayman Islands, the United States and the United Kingdom at George Town in 1986. The Agreement provides for the exchange of information on a range of crimes, broadly those which are extraditable between the Cayman Islands the United States. 13/

18. The Cayman Islands, together with 18 other countires of the region, is a member of a Caribbean customs agreement entitled "The Memorandum of Understanding regarding Mutual Assistance and Cooperation for the Prevention and Repression of Customs Offences in the Caribbean zone" (MOU) aimed at preventing problems arising from the smuggling of funds, money laundering and false invoicing, as well as detecting various kinds of white-collar fraud and interdiction of illegal drugs. 14/

E. Public service

19. As of 1990, the public service of the Cayman Islands comprised 1,899 established posts, compared with 1,784 in 1989. As of December 1989,

67.2 per cent of public service employees and 21 heads of departments out of 37 were Caymanians. 15/

20. All matters related to appointments, transfers, promotions, training, dismissals, retirement and disciplinary control of public officers are supervised by the Public Service Commission which advises the Governor on those questions.

21. During the period under review, the territorial Director of Training, in association with consultants from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), organized a series of seminars on modern management aimed at providing public servants with adequate training. Over 220 of the senior management personnel attended the seminars, which were intended to be the first step in a long-term management training programme. The Training Unit, in cooperation with the Community College and the private sector, organized a three-year training programme for accounting technicians that was attended by 23 civil servants. In 1989, 31 civil servants pursued full-time overseas courses. Ten additional places for overseas training were made available in 1990. 16/

22. A salary review was undertaken in late 1989, with the results to be made public in 1991. 16/

23. As of 1989, the mandatory retirement age of 65 years for civil servants has been waived so that "those physically and mentally capable of continuing [to work] could do so, especially if they did not retard the progress of younger officers". 15/

III. ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

A. General

24. The major economic sectors of the Cayman Islands are the financial industry, tourism, construction, the real estate business and local industry. Tourism and international finance contribute significantly to the development of the Territory by providing substantial amounts of capital and foreign exchange. They constitute a major growth factor for other sectors of the economy, such as construction, real estate development, local services and the offshore insurance business.

25. Since the mid-1960s, the development of agriculture has lagged behind the rapidly growing sectors of tourism, international finance and construction; consequently, there is a substantial dependence on food imports. There is a small manufacturing sector, which the Government, in its efforts to diversify the economy, has tried to expand in recent years.

26. According to the territorial Government, the revised 1988 gross domestic product (GDP) of the Cayman Islands was $CI 429 million or $CI 16,800 per capita. 17/ In a statement to the Legislative Assembly on 9 November 1990, the Financial Secretary pointed out that the rate of growth of GDP calculated in real terms had continued to slow, to 9.5 per cent during the first nine months of 1990, compared with 10.6 per cent in 1989. The rate of inflation during 1989 was recorded at 5.9 per cent. 18/

B. Public finance

27. The financial year of the Cayman Islands begins on 1 April and ends on 31 March. Each year, the Financial Secretary delivers to the Legislative Assembly a statement of expenditure and revenue.

28. The main items of revenue and expenditure for 1988 to 1990 were as follows: 19/

Revenue and expenditure, 1988-1990

(In Cayman Islands dollars)

A. Revenue

	1988 (Audited)	1989 (Unaudited)	1990 (Estimated)
Duty	34 284 076	37 160 552	36 500 000
Tax	5 034 246	6 368 706	6 627 500
Licences	8 607 923	9 022 585	8 881 000
Sales	15 479 214	16 448 775	16 285 000
Fees	13 906 887	15 480 579	16 807 000
Fines	671 905	719 369	700 000
Services	775 857	1 382 425	1 062 500
Rental/Leases	1 417 270	1 721 639	1 425 000
Loans Interest	1 531 421	7 925 114	5 391 818
Miscellaneous	1 265 470	1 249 160	564 000
Contributions	2 006 334	2 965 847	8 525 856
Total	84 980 603	100 444 751	102 769 674

B. Recurrent expenditure, by portfolio

Governor	699 223	720 895	818 787
Internal and external affairs	15 421 069	18 736 676	19 861 426
Finance and development	9 306 517	11 583 690	12 460 871
Legal administration	1 651 914	1 118 148	2 186 016
Health and social services	12 374 676	11 730 406	13 833 475
Communications, works and natural resources	9 982 288	11 175 617	10 228 651
Tourism, aviation and trade	8 509 494	9 810 612	12 372 114
Education, recreation and culture	8 704 440	10 766 078	12 794 331
Total	66 649 621	75 642 122	84 555 671

C. Capital expenditure

	1988 (Audited)	1989 (Unaudited)	1990 (Estimated)
From recurrent revenue	7 048 539	11 004 440	15 864 473
From loan funds	6 837 919	4 564 855	3 981 818
Total	13 886 458	15 569 295	19 846 291

D. Statutory expenditure

From recurrent revenue	4 808 198	5 784 203	6 430 272

29. According to press reports, 20/ on 9 November 1990, the Financial Secretary introduced to the Legislative Assembly a budget for 1990/91, which provided for $CI 123.5 million in expenditure and envisaged a $CI 18.3 million deficit to be partly met by utilizing the reserve and by reductions in the number of public service posts.

30. Included in the budget was the sum of $CI 115,796,600 in recurrent and capital expenditure, and for new services. The amount of $CI 7.7 million is allocated to statutory provisions for loan repayment, pensions and gratuities. 20/

31. The Financial Secretary stated that the revised 1991 budget deficit of $CI 18.3 million was higher than the original estimate of $CI 8.1 million. In order to balance the budget, he proposed to transfer $CI 7.8 million from the general reserve to the general revenue account, thus reducing the reserve position from $CI 19.6 million to $CI 11.8 million. 20/

32. Ordinary revenue for 1991 was estimated at $CI 105.2 million, compared with $CI 100.3 million in 1990. 20/

33. On 11 December 1990, the Legislative Assembly approved a government request to borrow $CI 12.9 million, to be used in 1991. The amount to be borrowed was scheduled to be used as follows: $CI 1.2 million for the purchase of motor vehicles, furniture and equipment; $CI 2.8 million for Community College and school construction; $CI 1.9 million for the upgrading of roads; $CI 1.0 million each for farm development, medical facilities and the purchase of land; and $CI 0.7 million for the upgrading of harbours and docks, yards and stores, as well as for disaster preparedness and land-fill operations. 21/

34. During the financial debate in the Legislative Assembly, members criticized the Government's financial policy, which, they said, had led to a significant budget deficit, an urgent need to use the general reserve and an increase in borrowed funds to balance the 1991 budget. An introduction of a three-year financial plan was proposed and is now under consideration by the Government.

Responding to those statements, the Financial Secretary, in his closing remarks on 2 December 1990, stressed the need for caution when making plans for economic development in 1991. 22/

35. According to the Financial Secretary, as at 1 January 1990, the total public debt of the Territory stood at $CI 29.8 million, of which the sum of $CI 19.4 million was owed directly by the Central Government, and a self-financing debt of $CI 10.4 million was owed by the statutory authorities but guaranteed by the Government. The principal repayments and re-evaluation on public debt in 1990 were expected to be $CI 1.4 million. It was also expected that at the end of 1990 a total of $CI 2.1 million of additional debt would have been purchased.

36. At of the end of 1989, the Government's reserves stood at $CI 18.2 million. 23/

37. The Cayman Islands introduced their own currency in 1972. For information on the currency's parity and denomination, see A/AC.109/1019, paragraph 37. The total assets of the Cayman Islands Currency Board at the end of 1989 were $CI 29.6 million.

38. The Cayman Islands remains free of income tax, including personal income and corporate taxes, and excise duty.

C. Land tenure, agriculture, livestock and fisheries

39. Land in the Territory is divided into commercial, residential and light and heavy industrial zones.

40. As a result of a cadastral survey, commenced in 1971, all land in the Cayman Islands is registered under a modified system, known as the Torrence system, the basic principle of which is that the land itself, rather than title deeds, is registered. This ensures that land dealings can take place efficiently and simply, although land certificates are often loosely described as "title deeds" to property. A stamp duty of 7.5 per cent is levied on the sale and exchange of land or other real estate. Stamp duties collected in 1989 amounted to $CI 11.85 million, compared with $CI 12.2 million in 1988. The Land Registry is responsible for the registration of all land transactions; the collection of duty stamps on land transfers, mortgages and other legal documents; and the maintenance of all land records and registry maps.

41. During 1989, the Land Registry processed 7,258 land transactions. The value of land transfers amounted to $CI 124.27 million in 1989, compared with $CI 131.08 million in 1988. The number of mortgages in 1989 was 2,799 which brought the amount of the secured debt to $CI 76.34 million. 24/

42. The Department of Agriculture is responsible for the regulation and development of the agricultural sector. The Department provides services in agronomy, veterinary medicine and surgery, and sells supplies and equipment to users. The Government allows the duty-free importation of equipment and other items for agricultural use only. 25/

43. During the period under review, the agricultural sector showed moderate recovery following the 1988 hurricane disaster. Crop production suffered further setbacks during the year, since it was not possible to fill the post of agronomist from December 1988 to September 1989. The following were the recorded crop production statistics for 1989: bananas, 92,444 kilograms; tomatoes, 29,575 killograms; sweet potatoes, 6,804 kilograms; cassava, 6,940 kilograms; yams, 4,309 kilograms; pumpkins, 13,154 kilograms; plantains, 14,697 kilograms; mangoes, 3,538 kilograms; and citrus, 27,896 kilograms. The production of bananas and tomatoes was sustained at levels greater than in the previous year, while all other crops listed above recorded reduced yields in the aftermath of Hurricane Gilbert. 25/

44. Livestock in 1989 was estimated at approximately 1,500 head of cattle, 460 pigs, 480 goats and 800 chickens (layers). The veterinary services responded to 290 field calls involving medicine and surgery, while the small animal clinic handled 744 medical and surgical cases. 25/

45. The Farmers' Market operations, run by the Cayman Islands Cooperative Society Ltd., are subsidized by the Government. The Government's subsidy to the Farmers' Market covers staff salaries as well as the majority of operating expenses. There were significant transactions of both plant produce and meat at the Farmers' Market in 1989. The number of animals slaughtered during the year was 152, representing 35,380 kilograms of meat handled by the market. Membership of the Farmers' Cooperative increased from 35 in 1988 to 55 in 1989. 26/

46. During the period under review, progress was made with respect to agricultural development planning. The Department initiated data-gathering and analysis for the five-year Agricultural Development Plan (1990-1995) for the Cayman Islands at the estimated cost of approximately $CI 74,500. The final documents produced as a result of these planning exercises became available in March 1990. 27/

47. During the year, the Department treated 511 head of cattle for liver-fluke infestation. This programme had moderate success and, according to The Cayman Islands Annual Report, 1989, needs to be strengthened by further preventive measures, including farmer cooperation, to improve management practices. 27/

48. The local poultry (egg-laying) industry slumped following the devastation by Hurricane Gilbert of the Cayman Poultry Farm at West Bay. Since then, two Jamaican compaies have indicated a desire to enter into joint-venture participation in a revived poultry industry in the Territory. Current egg-production is being carried out by a few small producers, as well as at the Northward Prison, where production is greatest.

D. Tourism

49. Tourism continues to be a dominant sector of the economy and a major source of foreign exchange of the Territory.

50. In 1989, there was continued growth in tourism, with the number of visitors reaching 617,769, compared with 534,294 in 1988. 28/ The average length of stay in 1989 was 6.63 nights, compared with 7 nights in 1987. Air arrivals in 1989 totalled 213,878 and there were 218,709 stay-over visitors. Some 403,891 visitors arrived by cruise-ship, showing a significant increase over the 1988 number of 315,585. 28/

51. According to the financial Secretary, hotel-room occupancy in 1989 was 67.2 per cent, compared with 68.2 per cent in 1988. Total spending by stay-over visitors in 1989 was $CI 130 million, compared with $CI 134 million in 1988.

52. Aiming at promoting the tourist industry, the territorial Government allocated an additional $CI 4.85 million for advertising for the Cayman Islands on United States television. The 1991 budget also contained over $CI 1 million for brochures and posters and over $CI 3 million for public relations. All brochures will be published and distributed in the United States, since tourists from the United States represented 83 per cent of all tourist arrivals in the Cayman Islands. 29/

53. In 1990, 834 tourists from Japan visited the Territory. The territorial Government considers Japan a substantial potential market for tourism. 29/

54. According to press reports, 30/ the Director-General of Cay Largo, Cuba, visited George Town in October 1990 with a view to establishing an exchange of tourists between the Cayman Islands and Cuba.

E. Financial sector

55. The banking and trust industry has expanded considerably since its inception in the Territory in the early 1960s and has transformed the Cayman Islands into one of the world's leading offshore financial centres.

56. In 1989, the number of licences issued reached a total of 538. There was a net increase of 11, with 32 new licences being issued and 21 cancelled. Forty-four of the world's fifty largest international banks are licensed in the Territory. Countries with a banking presence in the Cayman Islands total 60, with the largest share coming from the United States (11 per cent), followed by Switzerland (8 per cent) and Denmark (5 per cent). 30/ Total assets of licensed banks as at the end of 1989 were estimated at $US 359.7 billion.

57. The overall contribution of the international banking sector to the economy of the Territory in 1988 consisted of $CI 5.6 million in direct payments to the Government in the form of licence fees, and approximately $CI 65.2 million in the form of salaries, rents, capital expenditure and other normal business costs. 30/

58. In 1989, approximately 1,104 persons, of whom 77 per cent were Caymanians, were directly employed in the banking industry. 30/

59. In March 1989, the Legislative Assembly unanimously adopted a new banking law replacing the first banking law, which had come into force in 1966. The new law

gives the Government stronger and more clearly defined powers to regulate the international banking sector of the Territory's economy. It outlines a number of policy guidelines and increases fines for contraventions. 31/

60. At the end of 1989, the insurance market comprised 2 locally owned insurance companies and 26 international incorporated insurers. Some 62 agents and subagents and 6 insurance brokers were licensed to solicit business. During 1988, the latest year for which figures are available, over $CI 19 million was received in premium income, some $CI 8 million of which was generated by the life insurance business. 32/

61. The offshore sector consists of insurers incorporated as exempt companies in the Cayman Islands but licensed to underwrite non-domestic business. During 1989, 25 new captive insurance licences were issued. 33/

F. Transport and communications

62. Transport, communications and other basic facilities continued to be of paramount importance to the economy of the Territory in terms of uniting the three islands and servicing the tourist industry and other activities of the business community.

Air

63. Owen Roberts International Airport and Gerrard Smith International Airport continued to provide air transportation services to the Territory.

64. During 1989, there was an overall decline in passenger movements and associated revenue, largely owing to the suspension of flights to and from Miami, United States, by Eastern Airlines. Countering this decline, however, was the inauguration of Miami/Cayman services by two other large United States carriers, Pan American World Airways, Inc. and American Airlines, Inc., which both introduced daily flights during the last quarter of 1989. The scheduled flights were supplemented by increased charter services from the United States: Chicago (Canadian International), Baltimore/Philadelphia (Express One) and Minneapolis (American Trans Air). Another charter permit was also issued to a local operator, Island Air, permitting local, inter-island and international charter flights, as well as its operation as a flight training school. In 1989, the air passenger movements totalled 585,055 compared with 602,101 in 1988.

65. Cayman Airways Ltd. (CAL), which is wholly owned by the Government, continued to provide regular services between the Cayman Islands and Miami, Houston, Atlanta and Tampa in the United States, as well as Montego Bay and Kingston in Jamaica. It also provided charter services for the winter tourist season. In 1989, CAL inaugurated its non-stop service to New York in the United States. 34/

66. In 1989, Cayman Airways received an annual governmental subsidy of $US 1.25 million. The CAL 1988/89 annual report showed a net operating profit of $US 2,723,605 in 1989 ($US 735,092 in 1988). 34/

Sea

67. All ports in the Territory come under control of the Port Authority, a corporate body set up in 1976 and operating without governmental subsidy. The Territorial Government guarantees CDB loans, but it is the Port Authority that repays the loans. In addition to managing all ports in the Islands, the Authority has other functions, including the establishment of markers and lighthouses, the control of berths, the establishment and control of transit sheds, the loading and unloading of vessels and the supervision of territorial waters.

68. During 1989, the port on Grand Cayman handled a total of 142,342 tons of cargo an increase of 24,756 (21 per cent over the 1988 total) and the highest since 1980. The Cayman Brac port handled 7,358 tons of cargo (not including oil imports), a decrease of 1,142 tons, or 13 per cent. The portion of freight containerized was 89 per cent. 35/

69. The increasing use of containers assists in expediting loading and unloading, although their storage puts a strain on the amount of space available at the George Town facility. In 1988, the port gained the benefit of the Authority's $US 375,000 investment in 1987 in a second forklift, capable of handling both 20 foot and 40 foot containers weighting up to 40 tons. In 1989, plans were drawn up for a container storage yard to be sited away from the dock, which will relieve congestion considerably when constructed. 35/

70. Facilities at George Town consist of the southern wharf which is 136 metres long, including a 61-metre finger pier, with a maximum depth of 7 metres, and the western wharf, 73 metres long, with a maximum depth of 6 metres. There are also three roll-on/roll-off ramps. The port at the Creek, Cayman Brac, is equipped to handle the same class of vessels as at George Town, while Little Cayman has a small facility put into operation in 1984. Construction of the administration building for the Port Authority in Grand Cayman was completed in late 1989 at a cost of $CI 830,000, and in October staff took up occupancy of the two-storey, 604-square-metre building. A new parking lot was installed, and work was begun on a building to provide a lunchroom and restrooms for dock workers. 36/

71. The Territory is not served by any scheduled passenger lines but a number of locally owned or locally registered vessels provide cargo service between the Cayman Islands and Miami and Tampa, Florida, the United States; as well as the Cayman Islands and Kingston, Jamaica, and Costa Rica. 36/

Roads

72. The road infrastructure comprises 80 kilometres of roads connecting all districts on Grand Cayman, 34 kilometres of usable roads on Cayman Brac and a road on Little Cayman; roads on Grand Cayman and Little Cayman are fit for motor travel. The territorial Government continued its efforts to upgrade the road infrastructure in accordance with the Master Ground Transportation Plan adopted in 1987. Five of the "immediate action" projects recommended by the Plan, including major construction at the intersections of Eastern Avenue/Crewe and Eastern Avenue/West Bay Road, were completed during the period under review. New

traffic signal control equipment was installed at these and three other locations, improving traffic flow through these junctions. 37/

73. The number of vehicles imported into the Cayman Islands reached a new record of 2,154, and in 1989 the total number of vehicles licensed increased to 12,154, from 11,995 in 1988. Despite the increase in the number of registered cars, traffic accidents decreased during 1989 by 11 per cent to 855 from 953. 37/

Postal services

74. The Cayman Islands' postal needs are served by a General Post Office located at George Town, Grand Cayman, along with six sub-post offices and three agencies on Grand Cayman; a branch office in State Bay and five suboffices on Cayman Brac; and an agency on Little Cayman. Mail at the General Post Office maintained a steady flow and there was an increase in the number of expedited mail service items received from overseas during the year. With no house-to-house delivery of mail, most people in the Cayman Islands receive their mail through private mail boxes, which remain in short supply at the General Post Office. Supplementing this, mail may also be received at any of the post offices if addressed to "General Delivery". 37/

Telecommunications

75. Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Ltd. has been providing inter-island and international communications for the Cayman Islands since 1966. At the end of 1988, the Cable and Wireless telephone system served 8,553 subscribers with 16,947 stations. International outgoing paid telephone minutes reached 9.5 million, an increase of 14 per cent over 1987. A computerized telephone exchange installed at George Town in 1983 provides international direct dialing to 110 countries. Communication is achieved through links with the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Bermuda and Jamaica. There are a total of 185 circuits.

76. The numnber of telex service customers decreased to 208 after the introduction of facsimile machines provided by Cable and Wireless. "Fax" numbers listed in the local Cayman Islands directory exceeded 360.

G. Construction

77. The Central Planning Authority is responsible for regulating the development of the construction industry in the Territory. During 1989, it approved 613 projects with a total cost of $CI 146 million. The main activity was in the residential and apartment/condominium categories, with the cost of the projects amounting to $CI 37.9 million and $CI 55.1 million, respectively. The cost of the projects carried out in the hotel sector was $CI 13.4 million. 38/

H. Utilities

78. Electricity in the Territory has been provided by Caribbean Utilities Company, Ltd. (CUC), under an exclusive licence first granted by the Government in 1966 and

renewed in 1986 for a further 25 years. CUC is a public company with 456 shareholders. In 1989, its total assets stood at $CI 39.6 million, with revenues reported at $CI 20.8 million. CUC now provides service to some 11,000 consumers. In 1990, the total installed capacity of its generating equipment was 55 megawatts. 39/

79. Central De-Sal, Ltd. (CDS), a sister company of CUC, was awarded a contract by the territorial Government in 1986 to supply water to the Cayman Islands. CDS supplied the Water Authority in the first year of operation with 681,900 litres per day and is expected to increase the supply up to 1,727,480 litres per day by February 1992. The franchise for the piped water-supply for the Seven Mile Beach area is held by the Cayman Water Company, Ltd., which has a desalination plant at Governor's Harbour. 40/

80. Home Gas, Ltd., has been supplying the Cayman Islands with propane gas since 1957. It also provides gas for the Territory's commercial and residential operations. The company owns tanks with a storage capacity of 946,000 litres.

I. Broadcasting and press

81. The Government Information Services is in charge of all public information activities.

82. The Caymanian Compass, the only newspaper published in the Cayman Islands, is issued from Monday to Friday by the Cayman Free Press, Ltd. The newspaper's circulation was listed at 6,000 per day in 1989. Newstar is a monthly newsmagazine that covers different aspects of life in the Territory. It was first published in 1988.

83. There is no television station in the Cayman Islands, but various television programmes, mostly from the United States, are received either via satellite or privately owned disk antennae, or from tapes played on video recorders.

84. The government-owned Radio Cayman has been broadcasting various programmes from 6.00 a.m. to 11.30 p.m. daily since 1976. Nine newscasts are broadcast on weekdays, seven on Saturdays and five on Sundays.

J. Assistance from the United Nations system of organizations

85. Within the United Nations system, UNDP continues to be the main source of technical assistance to the Territory. For the fourth programming cycle (1986-1990), the UNDP Governing Council had approved a total of $US 462,538, which includes $US 22,000 carried over from the third programming cycle. The Government of the Territory is pursuing a programme aimed at economic diversification to reduce dependence on the two main sectors of tourism and offshore financing. In implementing this strategy, a major concern of the Government is the training of nationals to fill the numerous posts currently held by expatriates. The main focus of UNDP assistance is human resources development, through which training in a wide

variety of areas will be provided to nationals. The second country programme (January 1987-December 1991) will therefore address previously unmet training needs in certain priority areas, such as hydrogeology, physical planning, civil aviation, technical drawing, architectural design, building technology and electrical engineering. For 1987 and 1988, assistance from UNDP to the Cayman Islands totalled $US 350,000, of which the sum of $US 147,000 was spent during 1987 and $US 203,000 during 1988. The Cayman Islands Government became a signatory in August 1987 to the UNDP regional project for cultural heritage and development.

IV. SOCIAL CONDITIONS

A. Labour

86. The labour force in the Territory is made up of both Caymanians and expatriates from countries in Central America, as well as from Canada, Jamaica, the United Kingdom, the United States and elsewhere. Foreign workers must acquire work permits from the Immigration Department in order to work in the Territory. According to the Financial Secretary, as of November 1990, the total labour force of the Territory was 15,846. As at the end of September 1990, there were 5,352 gainful occupational licences in effect and the number of dependants accompanying those licence holders totalled 1,789. In addition, some 1,548 foreign workers, from the West Indies and Central America, were employed on short-term licences. The breakdown of non-Caymanians, by occupational group, was: professional, 1,301; skilled, 3,421; semi-skilled and unskilled, 2,104 persons. The occupational categories employing the highest numbers of non-Caymanians were: services, 1,978; domestic, 1,272; construction, 1,196; and tourism, 952. The geographial composition of the non-Caymanian labour force by origin was as follows: the West Indies and Central America, 2,100; the United States, 1,395; the United Kingdom and Ireland, 860; Canada, 497; and others, 400. 29/ In his statement to the Legislative Assembly on 9 November 1990, the Financial Secretary said that the rate of unemployment in the Territory was 6.2 per cent (987 persons) in 1989.

87. According to press reports, a new set of directives to the Caymanian Protection Board, aimed at controlling the number of work-permit holders allowed in the Cayman Islands, has been issued. 41/ The new directives confer preferential treatment to work-permit applicants married to, or descended from, Caymanians; in addition, they require the Protection Board to give Caymanians status to residents who, under the old law, lost it upon reaching 18 years of age. The first amendment grants the Board discretionary powers in implementing the 1987 directive of issuing permits in such a way that the number granted to the nationals of one region of the world should not exceed by more than 20 per cent the number granted to workers from another region. Five geographical regions were listed for purposes of work permits, namely, the West Indies and Central America, the United Kingdom and Ireland, the United States, Canada and elsewhere.

88. In March 1990, the territorial Government initiated preparation of a manpower survey, which was aimed at developing appropriate training policies and programmes to equip Caymanians to meet the growing demands of the labour market. 42/

B. Public health

89. Health care in the Cayman Islands is provided by the Health Services Department, which is responsible for all government health care, including public health services and services by private practitioners. The Health Practitioners Board is charged with overseeing the standard of health care provided in the Cayman Islands. There are two divisions of public health services: one encompasses community health service, primary care through the district health centres, and functions specified in the health laws, programmes which are supervised by the Medical Officer of Health; the other division covers the environmental health concerns of the Territory. Expenditure on government health services in 1989 was $CI 8.4 million; in addition, the sum of $CI 1.3 million was spent on overseas medical care.

90. As of 1989, there was one resident doctor for each 680 persons compared with about one for 600 in the United Kingdom and one for 300 in the United States. In 1989, there were 18 doctors in full-time private practice providing family health care or specialized service. In addition, 19 visiting specialists provided specialized medical care on a regular basis. Dental care was available through two government dental officers, as well as through three dentists, two orthodontists and two periodontists in private practice. There were three optometrists in private practice. Specialists' services in the field of surgery, gynaecology and obstetrics, paediatrics, internal medicine, anaesthesiology, public health, orthopaedics, ophthalmology, oforhinolaryngology (ear, nose and throat) and periodontology are available locally. In addition, from time to time, visiting specialists provide services in the field of dermatology, cosmetic surgery, colorectal surgery, ophthalmology, oforhinolaryngology, faciomaxillary surgery, orthopaedics and urology. 43/

91. The Government operates the 52-bed (including 7 nursery beds) Cayman Islands Hospital and an 8-bed extended care unit at the Pines Retirement Home on Grand Cayman, and the 10-bed Faith Hospital on Cayman Brac. In addition, primary care is provided through four district health centres on Grand Cayman. There was sustained utilization of district health centres, with 25,044 patient visits to centres on Grand Cayman and 1,244 visits to the public health clinic at Faith Hospital. Public health nurses made 8,726 home visits in 1989. 43/

92. Life expectancy at birth is 74.5 years. Total live births were 438, with 4 neonatal deaths. The crude birth rate rose to 17.2 per 1,000 persons from 15.8 in 1988. The death rate among residents was 4.4 per 1,000. The major causes of death were disease of the circulatory system, mainly heart disease and malignant neoplasms, especially cancer of the lung and breast. The rates for infant mortality and neonatal mortality were both 9.1 per 1,000 live births. The incidence of communicable disease was very low. The incidence of sexually transmitted diseases is of concern, however, and educational and surveillance activities are being intensified to assist in their control. 44/

93. Immunization coverage continued to be highly satisfactory, exceeding the target set by the World Health Organization (WHO). Immunization against diphteria/whooping cough/tetanus was administered to 92.3 per cent of the target

group (under 12 months of age). Three doses of poliomyelitis vaccine were given to 92.6 per cent of target children, while 91 per cent were administered the measles, mumps and rubella vaccine, and the BCG vaccine against tuberculosis was given to 83.2 per cent. 45/

94. At the end of 1989, there was a total of five acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) cases ending in death, in addition to seven persons infected by the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). The medium-term plan for 1989-1991 is now official government policy. The plan, with a cost of $US 263,642, was funded by WHO. A post of Health Educator is provided for in the plan for the development of a health education unit in general and to intensify AIDS educational activities. 45/

95. The Government adopted a five-year National Drug Prevention and Treatment Plan. Two more counsellors were added to the Addiction Services, and the Cayman Counselling Centre (CCC) was established away from the hospital to provide addiction treatment programmes. Structured outpatient primary treatment and family therapy programmes were initiated. A local video, "Crack Track", was developed by Cayman Against Drug Abuse as part of the effort towards community education. CCC assisted in its development and introduction in various districts. 46/

96. The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), in cooperation with WHO, continued to lend its support to primary health-care activities and the development of health services. A PAHO consultant from Jamaica continued providing engineering assistance in the consolidation of certain environmental health programmes of the Health Services Department. The Caribbean Epidemiology Centre provided in-service training programmes through workshops. Assistance was also provided through the Caribbean Food and Nutrition Institute for the development of life-style programmes. 47/

C. Educational conditions

97. Education is free and compulsory for Caymanian children between 4 years, 9 months and 16 years of age. There are nine government and six church-sponsored primary schools. There are two government high schools, a new middle school and two private secondary schools.

98. The territorial Government continued to place high priority on education. The 1989 education budget was in excess of $CI 10 million, compared with $CI 8.3 million in 1988. 48/

99. The territorial Government continued its efforts to upgrade the educational facilities. New facilities provided at the Cayman Islands High School included a new modern home economics block and a new science laboratory. Plans have been drawn up for a science block at the Cayman Islands High School and a technology block at the Cayman Brac High School. Other construction included a new classroom block at Savannah Primary School, and plans have been drawn up for a new infant school to accommodate the growing intake at the John A. Cumber Primary School at West Bay. 48/

100. In terms of curriculum development, the growing demands in the labour market for persons skilled in the scientific and technical fields have led to the establishment of a mandatory core curriculum of subjects in this area. This emphasis continued in 1989, with classrooms in all public schools equipped with micro-computers and software and a new emphasis on computer literacy. 49/

101. Provision for educating those with special needs continued. The Lighthouse School caters to students with serious physical, mental or behavioural problems. The new, custom-designed Gail Aiken wing was opened at the school during 1989 to provide physical and speech therapy. 49/

102. Responding to the need for action in drug abuse education and prevention, the Chief Education Officer organized and was chairman of a multi-agency committee to consider adopting suitable programmes for schools. A new post of Curriculum Coordinator for Social and Health Education introduced during the year provided the necessary coordination of programmes throughout the system. In conjunction with this, the Family Life Education programme was formally adopted into the high school curriculum, replacing and improving the social and health education programme. The new curriculum covers areas ranging from coping with peer pressure to use drugs, to making career choices.

103. The Government continued to provide in-service training for educators. One of these initiatives was a management training workshop, conducted in 1989 by the Government's Personnel Training Unit, in association with UNDP and the University of the West Indies. Participants in the workshop worked towards clarifying the overall aims and objectives of the educational system and developing management guidelines. A resulting detailed mission statement and draft statement of organizational philosophy made wide-ranging recommendations. The Teacher's Centre also provided education and increased awareness for teachers by conducting seminars aimed at providing insight into the overall operation of the Government, especially as it relates to them. 50/

104. The Community College of the Cayman Islands is a government-financed, post-secondary and adult education facility, whose board is comprised of government and public representatives. The first board took office in January 1989. The College has been occupying temporary quarters in the Tower Office Building and a nearby government compound at George Town. Construction of a permanent campus is planned to begin in 1991.

105. The work of the College is organized in three departments, namely, business studies, hotel studies and technology. The College continued to offer full-time, one-year certificate programmes in business studies, including accounting, typewriting and word-processing; hotel studies, including front-office and restaurant management and room service; and technology, including electricity/electronics, auto-mechanics, design and construction. The College also offered on a full-time basis a two-year diploma programme in hotel studies, which included hotel supervision and accounting. Enrolments in 1989 were as follows: 39 in business studies, 40 in hotel studies and 20 in technology. Part-time programmes included banking, accounting, computer studies, courses leading to various General Certificate of Education ordinary and advanced-level subjects, and other courses of general interest.

106. During 1989, the College, with the participation of the government Personnel Training Unit, the Bankers' Association, the Cayman Islands Chamber of Commerce and the Cayman Islands Society of Professional Accountants, introduced day-release programmes leading to examinations of the London-based Association of Accounting Technicians and the Institute of Bankers. Enrolments were 40 for the Association of Accounting Technicians programme and 19 for the banking certificate. 51/

107. The International College of the Cayman Islands, a private independent institution of higher education, with a campus at Newlands, Grand Cayman, and a campus at Miami, Florida, United States, is accredited as a senior college by the Accrediting Commission of the Association of Independent Colleges and Schools, Washington. It first registered with the Education Department of the Cayman Islands in 1970 and has been operating since then. The International College of the Cayman Islands is chartered in the state of Florida as a degree-granting institution and is authorized by that state's Board of Independent Colleges and Universities to offer courses leading to certificates and associate's, bachelor's and master's degrees.

108. The institution offers a Master of Science degree in management, Bachelor of Science and Associate of Science degrees, and one certificate. The Bachelor of Science degree offers several concentrations within its six majors: business administration, office administration, community services, elementary education, secondary education (business subjects) and liberal arts studies.

109. On 6 April 1989, the undergraduate teacher education programme of the International College of the Cayman Islands was approved for registration by the Massachusetts Department of Education's Bureau of Teacher Preparation, Certification and Placement. In September, the institution formed a consortium with the Summit System of Colleges and Schools, Largo, Florida, in order to broaden its outreach and to benefit from the managerial expertise of the Summit System. The official enrolment for the 1988/89 school year was 344 students drawn from 23 countries. The college library houses 25,000 volumes and 98 periodicals, as well as audiovisual materials. 51/

110. The Cayman Islands Law School offers an opportunity to Caymanians to qualify locally in a profession that plays an important role in the islands' modern development. The Attorney-at-Law course, which forms the main part of the law school's curriculum, is of five years' duration, with examinations at the end of each year. In addition, an opportunity to study law is offered through a wide variety of courses, including a two-year diploma course in legal studies intended to enhance career and promotional opportunities for Caymanians. In 1989, 23 students pursued the professional course. There were four full-time lecturers as well as the Director.

D. Crime and crime prevention

111. The overall number of reported crimes in the Territory in 1989 was 2,634, compared with 3,061 in 1988. 52/ The number of drug offences declined from 707 in 1988 to 533 in 1989. The Drug Squad concentrated on dealers; it seized cocaine and

ganja (marijuana) and confiscated a twin-engined Cessna aircraft used in the smuggling of ganja. 52/

112. In another area of crime fighting, the use of overt and covert preventive methods resulted in a reduction in the number of burglaries, from 1,114 in 1988 to 983 in 1989. 52/

113. In 1989, approval was granted for an increase in the police establishment, raising the level to 224 officers, in addition to civilian administrative support. That increase was found necessary to enable police to maintain levels of service against the escalation of the demands placed on the service, particularly within the past five years. 52/

Notes

1/ The information contained in the present paper has been derived from published reports and from information for 1989 and 1990 transmitted to the Secretary-General on 30 January 1991 by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations.

2/ The Caymanian Compass, 4 July 1990; see also Living in the Cayman Islands (Cayman Islands Government Information Services, 1990), pp. 5 and 6.

3/ The Cayman Islands Annual Report, 1989. Published by the Government of the Cayman Islands, George Town, British West Indies, pp. 155 and 156.

4/ The local currency is the Cayman Islands dollar ($CI). Under the articles of agreement of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), parity of the Cayman Islands dollar to the United States dollar is fixed at $CI 1.00 = $US 1.20.

5/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/9023/Rev.1), vol. V, chap. XXIV, annex, sect. B, paras. 5-13.

6/ United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Reference Services, No. 204/87 (London, Central Office of Information), December 1987.

7/ The Caymanian Compass, 12 June 1987.

8/ The Financial Times (London), 25 October 1989.

9/ The Caymanian Compass, 19 February 1990.

10/ Ibid., 11 October 1990.

11/ Ibid., 16 November 1990.

12/ Ibid., 8 January 1991.

Notes (continued)

13/ The Cayman Islands Annual Report, 1989, p. 25.

14/ The Caymanian Compass, 16 November 1989.

15/ Ibid., 29 March 1989.

16/ The Cayman Islands Annual Report, 1989, p. 163.

17/ Ibid., p. 4

18/ The Caymanian Compass, 1 May 1990.

19/ The Cayman Islands Annual Report, 1989, p. 179.

20/ The Caymanian Compass, 15 November 1990.

21/ Ibid., 12 December 1990.

22/ Ibid., 3 December 1990.

23/ The Cayman Islands Annual Report, 1989, p. 32.

24/ Ibid., p. 47.

25/ Ibid., p. 58.

26/ Ibid., p. 59.

27/ Ibid., p. 60.

28/ Ibid., p. 189.

29/ The Caymanian Compass, 7 December 1990.

30/ The Cayman Islands Annual Report, 1989, p. 33.

31/ The Caymanian Compass, 16 March 1989.

32/ The Cayman Islands Annual Report, 1989, p. 34.

33/ Ibid., p. 35.

34/ Ibid., p. 101.

35/ Ibid., p. 103.

36/ Ibid., p. 104.

Notes (continued)

37/ Ibid., p. 105.

38/ Ibid., p. 44.

39/ Ibid., p. 121.

40/ Ibid., p. 123.

41/ The Caymanian Compass, 12 May 1989.

42/ Ibid., 28 March 1990.

43/ The Cayman Islands Annual Report, 1989, p. 80.

44/ Ibid., p. 81.

45/ Ibid., p. 82.

46/ Ibid., p. 83.

47/ Ibid., p. 87.

48/ Ibid., p. 68.

49/ Ibid., p. 71.

50/ Ibid., p. 72.

51/ Ibid., p. 75.

52/ Ibid., pp. 94 and 185.

UNITED NATIONS

A

General Assembly

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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

PITCAIRN

Working paper prepared by the Secretariat

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PITCAIRN 1/

I. GENERAL

1. Pitcairn, a Non-Self-Governing Territory in the South Pacific administered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, consists of four islands. Only one of the islands, known as Pitcairn, situated about midway between Australia and South America, is inhabited. It is 3 kilometres long and 1.5 kilometres wide and has a land area of 4.5 square kilometres. Adamstown is the only settlement. The three uninhabited islands are: Oeno, Ducie and Henderson.

2. Pitcairn was uninhabited when the mutineers from the HMS Bounty arrived there in January 1790. The first settlers included 9 mutineers and 19 Polynesians, and today Pitcairn is populated by their descendants. The Pitcairners have their own dialect, a mixture of eighteenth century English and Polynesian.

3. In 1990, the Island Magistrate, Mr. Brian Young, a seventh-generation descendant of one of the HMS Bounty mutineers, visited London at the invitation of the United Kingdom Government in connection with the two hundredth anniversary of the mutiny. 2/

4. According to the current report of the administering Power, the current population is 56, 3/ composed of 48 Pitcairners and 8 expatriates. 4/ No births or deaths were reported during the period under review.

II. CONSTITUTIONAL AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

5. Overall responsibility for the Territory is vested in the United Kingdom High Commissioner to New Zealand, who is also Governor of Pitcairn. Pitcairn Islanders manage their internal affairs through an Island Council, which consists of 10 members: the elected Island Magistrate who serves for a three-year term and acts as Chairman with both executive and judicial powers; three elected councillors who serve for a one-year term; the Island Secretary, who is a public officer and serves ex officio; one member appointed by the Governor; two members chosen by the elected members; and two non-voting advisory members (one chosen by the Governor and the other by the rest of the Council).

6. The Internal Committee, composed of an elected chairman and any other members whom the Island Council may appoint, organizes and implements the work programme.

7. The Island Court consists of the magistrate and two councillors. Its jurisdiction is limited to offences against the island Code committed on the island and in territorial waters by residents of the Territory and to civil actions. There is provision for appeal to the Supreme Court of Pitcairn, which the Governor has the power to constitute and which has jurisdiction in cases outside the competence of the Island Court. The Island Court is rarely required to sit. Pitcairn has not had a court case since 1968, when some trees were burnt. 2/

Consideration by the General Assembly

8. In a statement to the Fourth Committee of the General Assembly on 24 October 1990, 4/ the representative of the United Kingdom stated that regardless of the size of the Territory and the number of people involved, the wishes of the inhabitants had remained the guiding principle of his Government's policy. The aim of the United Kingdom Government was to ensure that in exercising their rights, the people of the remaining dependent Territories decided for themselves what political future they wanted. It was for them to determine if they wanted independence or another status. His Government considered it wrong to equate self-determination solely with independence and to ignore that other options were available.

9. The United Kingdom representative further stated that his Government had faithfully fulfilled its obligation under the Charter of the United Nations to develop self-government in its dependent Territories. In cooperation with the locally elected Governments, it ensured that the constitutional framework of the dependent Territories continued to meet the aspirations and wishes of the people.

10. On 20 November 1990, in its decision 45/408 on the question of Pitcairn, which was adopted by consensus, the General Assembly reaffirmed the inalienable right of the people of Pitcairn to self-determination in conformity with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, which fully applied to the Territory. The Assembly also reaffirmed the responsibility of the administering Power to promote the economic and social development of the Territory and urged the administering Power to continue to respect the very individual life-style that the people of the Territory had chosen and to preserve, promote and protect it.

III. ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

11. Pitcairn's area of 452 hectares is largely covered with secondary bush interspersed with grass, family gardens and fruit trees. Apart from the Adamstown settlement, which occupies about 24 hectares, land is classified as suitable for gardens or arable farming (117 hectares), forest (77 hectares) and non-arable cliffs and rock ledges (121 hectares). Land is family-owned and usually passed on to successive generations but the law allows for leasehold arrangements and "borrow" land. The Lands and Administration of Estates Ordinance provides, inter alia, for ownership and registration of land.

12. During the period under review, total revenue was $NZ 1,067,300 5/ and expenditure was $NZ 1,031,900, representing a surplus of $NZ 35,400.

13. Pitcairn's principal sources of income were the sale of postage stamps, as well as interest and dividends. Stamp sales declined from $NZ 607,900 in the previous period to $NZ 487,100. The next most important source of revenue, interest and dividends, also continued to decline from $NZ 328,800 in 1988/89 to $NZ 290,400. Other sources of revenue included coin sales amounting to $NZ 186,700 and miscellaneous revenue totalling $NZ 103,100.

14. The highest expenditures were in the following areas: administration, $NZ 413,800; postal operations, $NZ 232,000; public works and marine operations, $NZ 201,600; medical services, $NZ 72,100; education, $NZ 64,400; broadcasting, $NZ 38,600; and agriculture, $NZ 9,400.

15. Most foodstuff and all other goods are imported. Imports consist mainly of cereals, eggs, fats, meats, milk, sugar, machinery, fuel, lubricating oil and building materials. Exports consist of handicrafts and some fruits and vegetables, which are sold mainly to passing vessels by Pitcairners to supplement their income.

16. Responsibility for agriculture is vested in the Head Forester who has two part-time assistants. Livestock consists of a few goats and some poultry. A tractor with a driver and implements are available for hire to assist in garden cultivation. Seeds and pesticides are also available at cost from the forestry department. Honey bees, introduced over the past 10 years, provide small quantities of honey for domestic consumption and their pollination of tree and garden crops has increased production.

17. Adequate protection of flora and fauna is provided by local ordinances. The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora also applies. At its twelfth session in December 1988, the World Heritage Committee added Henderson Island to its World Heritage list.

18. Subsistence fishing is one of the main occupations of the Islanders. Under the Fisheries Zone Ordinance of 1980, Pitcairn declared a 200-mile fisheries zone around the island in the hope that the Territory could increase its income by selling fishing licences. After a three-year trial, Japanese trader operations dwindled from six boats in 1986 to one in 1989 and licence income slumped to $NZ 6,314. Mr. Young, the Island Magistrate, stated that Japan Tuna was not interested in renewing the three-year agreement because its catches had been low. Another country had shown interest but, because of Pitcairn's remoteness, the chances of concluding an agreement were not good. 2/ According to the current annual report, one fishing licence was issued in 1989, but only negligible quantities of fish were taken.

19. Electricity is supplied by three government-owned diesel generators with a total power output of 135 KVA. The generators supply power for public lighting (including navigational lights) and sufficient power to be sold to private homes in Adamstown and to meet school and telecommunications requirements. According to the current annual report, studies are under way to determine whether to expand the present power generation facility or to replace it by a different system.

20. Pitcairn is surrounded by very rough seas and has no sheltered bay for anchorage. Frequent difficulties encountered in unloading cargo and passengers from passing ships led the administering Power to construct a jetty at Bounty Bay in 1977.

21. There are 28.2 kilometres of mud roads on Pitcairn which are maintained by the community. 2/

22. Sea communication is maintained by one shipping company whose vessels travelling between New Zealand and Panama make approximately four calls per year. Other cargo vessels make unscheduled calls. In 1989/90, 37 cargo vessels, 1 naval vessel, 6 cruise ships, 6 other vessels and 21 yachts stopped at the island for periods ranging from a few hours to three weeks.

23. Postal facilities are available. There are local telephone connections between private houses, the school and some public buildings. There is a radio-telephone service and a telegraph service with international toll circuits via New Zealand.

IV. SOCIAL CONDITIONS

24. According to the annual report of the administering Power for the period under review, there are no social problems of a racial or cultural nature. Women share equal status with men and participate fully in the work and leisure activities of the community. There are no obstacles to personal or corporate freedoms and Pitcairn's legislation meets the requirements of United Nations conventions on human rights.

25. There is no permanent labour force and the labour supply depends on community spirit. A committee, under a publicly elected chairman, supervises the performance of limited communal services. Allowances and wages are paid to members of the community who participate in local government activities. The rate of payment for casual work, usually for the local administration, was increased from $NZ 1.65 per hour in 1988/89 to $NZ 3.25 in 1989/90.

26. Housing standards vary; a mixture of local and imported materials is used. Building permits are issued by the Island Council. The cost of building materials is subsidized dollar for dollar by the Government.

27. A consumers' cooperative society, established in 1967, owns the only shop in the Territory which provides basic foodstuff and staples. Sales for 1989/90 amounted to $NZ 43,483.13 or some $NZ 400 more than the previous year. There are currently about 30 members in the cooperative society.

28. During the period under review, one doctor served as Medical Officer for three months; for the remainder of the year, a registered nurse was responsible for health care. Medical advice and assistance may also be obtained from surgeons on passing ships. There is a well-equipped government clinic run by a registered nurse in cooperation with a church organization.

29. The Government meets the cost of medical supplies and drugs. If medical treatment is required outside Pitcairn, compassionate grants or loans are available from public funds. Total health expenditure in 1988/89 amounted to $NZ 72,100 (representing 9.6 per cent of total recurrent expenditure) compared with $NZ 71,800 for the previous period. There are no prevalent diseases; a small number of people are receiving treatment for diabetes. Pensions are paid to persons who are 65 years of age and over. A widow's benefit was introduced in 1983/84.

V. EDUCATIONAL CONDITIONS

30. There is one school which is controlled and financed by the Government. Education is free, and attendance is compulsory for all children between 5 and 15 years of age. During the period under review, expenditure on education amounted to $NZ 64,400 (representing 8.6 per cent of total recurrent expenditure) compared with $NZ 60,000 for the previous period. In 1989/90, the school roll was composed of eight girls and five boys. Instruction is in the English language and is based on the New Zealand standard curriculum. Post-primary education is conducted at the school by correspondence courses arranged through the New Zealand Department of Education. During 1989, two post-primary pupils attended school in New Zealand at the Government's expense.

31. By arrangement with the International Division of the New Zealand Department of Education, a trained teacher (education officer) is seconded for two-year terms. The Island Council and the Seventh-Day Adventist Church are represented on the School Management Board. Internal examinations are conducted by the education officer, and the Governor may prescribe external examinations and arrange for inspections.

Notes

1/ The information contained in this paper has been derived from published reports and from information transmitted to the Secretary-General by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations on 11 September 1990 for the year ending 31 March 1990.

2/ The Times (London), 31 July 1990.

3/ United Kingdom, House of Commons, Parliamentary Debates (Hansard), 2 February 1990, cols. 405 and 406.

4/ A/C.4/45/SR.12.

5/ The local currency is the New Zealand dollar ($NZ); during 1989/90, $NZ 1.00 was equivalent to approximately $US 0.57.

UNITED NATIONS

A

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ANGUILLA

Working paper prepared by the Secretariat

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ANGUILLA 1/

I. GENERAL

1. Anguilla lies 240 kilometres east of Puerto Rico, 113 km north-west of Saint Kitts and Nevis and 8 km north of St. Maarten/Saint-Martin. The Territory has a total land mass of 96 km^2 and includes several offshore islets. The Department of Trade of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland operates a lighthouse station on Sombrero Island, one of the offshore islands. The main island has a maximum length of 26 km and a maximum width of 5 km. There is no dominant urban area in Anguilla, although certain areas are more densely settled than others. The government headquarters and the main settlement area are located in the Valley.

2. The climate is tropical, with a mean monthly temperature of about 25 degrees centigrade and a mean monthly relative humidity of over 70 per cent. Because of Anguilla's topography, rainfall is low and erratic. The islands lie in the hurricane zone and a hurricane watch is observed between July and October.

3. The population, which the 1984 census placed at 6,842, increased to 7,300 in mid-1988. 2/ Population density increased from 75 persons per km^2 in 1984 to 79 in 1988. 3/ There are a small number of expatriate residents, mainly from the United Kingdom, Canada and the United States of America. According to the administering Power, several thousand Anguillans and their families live and work outside Anguilla, mainly on adjacent Caribbean islands (St. Maarten/Saint-Martin, St. Kitts and Nevis, Antigua and Barbuda, United States Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico) and in the United Kingdom and the United States.

4. A United Nations mission visited the Territory in September 1984 and later held consultations in London with representatives of the administering Power (see A/AC.109/799).

II. CONSTITUTIONAL AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

A. Constitution

5. An outline of the Anguilla (Constitution) Order, 1982, is given in the report of the Visiting Mission (A/AC.109/799, paras. 19-27). Briefly, the Government of Anguilla consists of a Governor, an Executive Council and a House of Assembly. The Governor, who is appointed by the Queen, is responsible for defence, external affairs, internal security, including the police, and the public service. He also holds reserved legislative powers under the authority of the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs of the United Kingdom. On all other matters, the Governor is required to consult with, and act on the advice of, the Executive Council. In September 1989, the local press reported that Mr. Brian John Canty had been appointed Governor of the Territory, replacing Mr. Geoffrey Owen Whitaker. 4/

6. The Executive Council consists of the Governor as Chairman, the Chief Minister, Mr. Emile Gumbs, three other ministers and two ex-officio members (the

Attorney-General and the Permanent Secretary of Finance). The Secretary of the Executive Council is appointed by the Governor after consultation with the Chief Minister.

7. The House of Assembly comprises a Speaker, seven members elected from single-member constituencies, two ex-officio members (the Attorney-General and the Permanent Secretary of Finance) and two nominated members. These members are appointed by the Governor, one on the advice of the Chief Minister and the other after consultations with the Chief Minister.

8. The law of Anguilla is the common law of the United Kingdom, together with all legislation inherited from the former Associated State of St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla up to August 1971 and the local legislation enacted since that date. The law is administered by the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court, which comprises a Court of Appeal and a High Court of Justice, courts of summary jurisdiction and magistrate courts.

B. Constitutional developments

9. A detailed account of the main points and questions raised in the report of the Constitution Review Committee 5/ appointed by the Governor is contained in the 1989 working paper prepared by the Secretariat (see A/AC.109/975, paras. 15 and 16. See also A/AC.109/975/Add.1, annex). Additional information on constitutional developments gathered from published reports is set out below.

10. According to a press report, 6/ in a letter dated 3 November 1989, Mr. Geoffrey Whitaker, the outgoing Governor of Anguilla, informed the island's Chief Minister and the members of the Anguilla House of Assembly that, according to the Office of the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, the Government of the United Kingdom was not prepared to reconsider its position on constitutional change for Anguilla. The United Kingdom had agreed, however, to several of the changes recommended by the Anguilla House of Assembly based on the report of the Constitution Review Committee. These changes include the controversial "belonger" status for children of Anguillan parents born in non-Commonwealth Territories, such as the United States Virgin Islands and St. Maarten/Saint-Martin, as well as the decision that the post of Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Finance should not carry membership in the Executive Council or the House of Assembly. The changes agreed upon were implemented in 1990.

11. According to the same press report, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office had not changed its position regarding the restriction or delegation to the Ministers of any or all of the Governor's special responsibilities without setting a time for independence. The report added that "a constitutional conference would be held in London only after a decision has been taken by a Territory to proceed towards independence". The report further stated that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office had refused to consider the creation of a fifth ministerial post or a change in the number of ministers from a maximum of four to a minimum of four. Such a change, reportedly, would have eased the current workload of the four ministers, who at present carry two or more separate ministries in their respective portfolios.

12. The fifth Anguilla House of Assembly met for the first time in May 1989. The meeting was not attended by the two nominated members of the House, whose appointment by the Governor had been prevented as a result of a disagreement between the outgoing Governor and the elected Government. Mr. Whitaker had decided to consult with the opposition on the appointment of the second nominated member, in accordance with the constitutional change that the House of Assembly had passed and sent to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office for consideration. According to the current Constitution, however, the Governor should appoint the second nominated member after consultation with the Chief Minister. 7/

13. In January 1990, a government delegation visited London to discuss with officials of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office the amendments to the Constitution. The delegation was headed by the Chief Minister and included the Governor, the Attorney-General and the Opposition Member of the House of Assembly. 8/

14. Following the meeting, the controversy over the nominated members was resolved by countermanding the outgoing Governor's decision and upholding the practice under the 1982 Constitution Order of appointing the second nominated member after consultation with the Chief Minister. The constitutional change, which will require that the second nominated member be appointed by the Governor after consultation with the Chief Minister and the leader of the opposition, will take effect after the next election. Consequently, in February 1990, the ruling Anguilla National Alliance Party selected the two nominated members, who were then appointed by the Governor. 9/

15. In May 1990, a constitutional amendment that grants Anguilla more self-government but removes its jurisdiction over offshore banking operations went into effect. The amendment was the result of a motion passed in the Anguilla House of Assembly in August 1985 calling for a review of the 1982 Constitution. Published in the Government's Official Gazette, the amendment provides for the appointment of a deputy governor, a parliamentary secretary who is to be chosen from among elected officials, and an opposition leader in Parliament.

16. The decision to remove jurisdiction for offshore banking from the local government stems from an investigation of operations in all United Kingdom dependencies, which found that regulation and supervision of the transactions were too lax in Anguilla and Montserrat. The amendment also places responsibility for the island's international financial services in the hands of the governor, who also will have the authority to delegate any of his responsibilities to ministers. The amendment calls for the creation of a commission, which will consider the granting of citizenship to residents of Anguilla who are nationals of other islands. 10/

17. On 19 June 1990, the House of Assembly held its first session since the new constitutional change became law on 30 May. The House featured only 10 members instead of the usual 11: 7 elected members (4 government ministers and 3 opposition members), the 2 nominated members (including the Parliamentary Secretary who is the first nominated member) and the Attorney-General. Absent from the meeting was the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Finance who, under the new

constitutional amendment, is no longer an ex-officio member of the Assembly. The new constitutionally appointed official leader of the opposition, Mr. Hubert Hughes, attended the session. 11/ Before the constitutional change, Mr. Hughes, who is an elected member of the House of Assembly, attended its meetings as a simple member of the opposition.

C. Political parties and elections

18. The last general elections in the Territory were held on 27 February 1989 and resulted in the re-election of Chief Minister Emile Gumbs. His party, the ruling Anguilla National Alliance (ANA) won three of the seven seats contested. The ANA position was further strengthened when an independent elected member rallied to the party. As a result, ANA now controls four of the seven seats in the House of Assembly. 12/ The opposition party, the Anguilla United Party (AUP), won two seats and the Anguilla Democratic Party (ADP), one seat. 13/

19. In response to a query in the House of Assembly in July 1990 concerning voter registration, the Attorney-General said that the draft of a consolidated version of the present electoral legislation had been completed, and that amendments to provide for a system of continuous voter registration were under consideration. He added, however, that he could not say when the new legislation would be brought before the House, as that would depend on the priorities set out in the Government's legislative programme included in the Throne Speech to be delivered later in the year. 11/

20. Prior to that, in April 1990, an administrative notice was published in the press requesting persons who had changed their name, address or occupation, or who had recently qualified to be registered as voters, to supply their full particulars to their local registration officer. 14/

D. Future status of the Territory

Position of the Government of the United Kingdom

21. In his statement before the Fourth Committee of the General Assembly on 24 October 1990, the representative of the United Kingdom stated that, regardless of the size of the Territory and the number of people involved, the wish of the inhabitants had remained the guiding principle of his Government's policy. Its aim was to ensure that the people decided for themselves what kind of political future they wanted. It was up to them to determine whether they wished to exercise their right to independence or whether they wished instead to opt for some other status. In that connection, it was wrong to equate self-determination solely with independence, since other options were also available. 15/

22. In August 1990, Governor Canty visited London and met with the Parliamentary Secretary in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office with responsibility for Anguilla. On his way to the United Kingdom, the Governor paid a courtesy call in Bermuda on Governor Desmond Langley and Prime Minister John Swan, in a quest to strengthen the relations between the two United Kingdom Territories. 16/

E. Civil service

23. In September 1989, the Executive Council named Sir Carlisle Burton, Chairman of the Turks and Caicos Public Service Commission, as Salaries Commissioner. He was given authority to review the salaries and conditions of service in the Anguilla Public Service and to make recommendations that might assist the Government in improving the efficiency of the public service and in establishing a system of annual adjustment of public service salaries. 4/

24. In a report submitted to the Government in December 1989, Sir Carlisle charged that there was a flagrant disregard, by members of the civil service, of certain administrative rules and regulations, known as General Orders Nos. 79-86, of the Anguilla Public Service.

25. Published in 1986, these Orders stipulate that an officer whose salary is fixed on the assumption that his whole time is at the disposal of the Government will not be permitted to undertake private work for remuneration, save in exceptional circumstances and with the prior permission of the Governor.

26. The Government and the House of Assembly, by resolution 24 passed by the House on 16 February 1990, requested the Governor to deal with the problems of conflict of interest involving members of the public service. In his report, Sir Carlisle stressed the need for a new code of public service conduct and recommended a full-scale inquiry to determine the extent and nature of the problem, as well as a better system of supervision of the public service.

27. In September 1990, the Government announced the creation of a three-member Ethics Committee, with the Deputy Governor as Chairman and two other members appointed in consultation with the Chief Minister and the Leader of the Opposition. According to its terms of reference, the Committee would review the situation in the public service and report to the Governor cases of conflict of interest believed to result from disregard of the General Orders, as well as make recommendations for action with regard to each individual case.

28. Deputy Governor Alan Hoole stated, however, that cases of conflict of interest involving a Minister in the Government should first be reported to the Speaker of the House of Assembly and, in the absence of a satisfactory solution, to the Governor. Following its investigations into the extent of the problem of conflict of interest, the Committee could then recommend to the Governor possible changes to the General Orders.

29. The Ethics Committee invited members of the public, including civil servants, to make representations to them regarding alleged cases of conflict of interest in the public service. According to the Chairman of the Committee, all representations would be received on a "strictly confidential basis".

30. The Committee's terms of reference also require it to make recommendations for the revision of the Public Service Commission Regulations, to empower the Commission to act also as a standing Public Service Integrity Board with authority in the future to refer to the Deputy Governor cases for the granting of permission for a member of the public service to engage in private work. 17/

31. Also as a result of recommendations made in the Burton report on the public service, and by order of the Governor, acting in accordance with the advice of the Chief Minister, the ministries were reorganized on 19 March 1990. According to the new structure, the Chief Minister was given responsibility for the Ministry of Home Affairs, Agriculture and Tourism, which now includes the departments of Labour, Tourism, Agriculture and Fisheries and Information and Broadcasting. The Social Security Board and the Community Development and Welfare Department have been transferred from the Chief Minister's Office to the Ministry of Finance.

32. The Ministry of Finance and Economic Development is now comprised of the Departments of Finance, Treasury, Customs, the Post Office and the Registry of Commercial Activities, as well as the Social Security and Development Boards. Mr. Osbourne Fleming has been given responsibility for this Ministry, which no longer administers the Department of Education. Mr. Eric Reid will administer the Ministry of Social Services and Lands, and will thus assume responsibility for the Department of Community Development and Welfare and the Department of Education, in addition to the Lands and Survey, Medical and Health and Dental Departments. The Ministry of Communications, Works and Public Utilities, under the administration of Mr. Kenneth Harrigan, retains the same responsibilities, with the exception of the Department of Information and Broadcasting, which is now under the supervision of the Chief Minister.

33. According to the recommendations made by Sir Carlisle, these changes "would bring about a higher quality of analysis and decision-making ... so that higher levels of productivity could be realized" in Government. 14/

F. External relations

34. The Government of Anguilla cooperates directly with other Governments in the Caribbean and participates in regional conferences and projects organized by Governments, as well as by regional and international organizations and agencies (see also paras. 62-68). The Territory is a member of the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), the University of the West Indies and the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank.

III. ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

A. General

35. Anguilla's development objectives remain the raising of the standard of living of Anguillans through the development of the Territory's productive potential and the provision of a wide range of employment opportunities. Tourism is the major vehicle of growth, although the Government recognizes the importance of some level of economic diversification for balanced sectoral growth. The development strategy also envisages joint ventures between the public and private sectors, thereby creating an atmosphere that would attract both local and foreign investment.

B. Public finance

36. According to CDB, 2/ government revenues rose to $EC 31.5 million in 1989 18/ from $EC 27.6 million in 1988. Owing mainly to an 11.5 per cent salary increase in 1989, government expenditure increased significantly, from $EC 23.8 million in 1988 to $EC 28.4 million in 1989. The Territory's budgetary surplus fell from $EC 3.8 million in 1988 to an estimated $EC 3.1 million in 1989.

37. In its Annual Report, CDB stated that in 1989 the Government carried out a preliminary review of its fiscal system, which resulted in higher taxes on a number of items, including embarkation, property, bank deposits, cruising permits, liquor and petroleum licences, motor vehicle and drivers' licences and port dues. The aim of the new fiscal measures was to collect additional revenues in excess of $EC 500,000 in 1990. 2/

38. In January 1991, it was reported that the budget for 1991 was estimated at $EC 33 million and would be financed mostly through higher fees introduced for building permits, marriage licences, post office boxes, medical and dental services, trade marks and passports. 19/

C. Agriculture, livestock and fisheries

39. Agricultural activity in Anguilla is extremely limited by a combination of factors, including poor soil, limited arable land and irregular rainfall. The policy of the Government, however, is to increase to the greatest extent possible the degree of self-sufficiency in agricultural production. In that connection, the services of an officer from the Caribbean Agricultural Rural Development and Training Service (CARDATS) have been secured for two years with a view to training local farmers (for further details, see A/AC.109/934, paras. 22-26).

40. The territorial Government, in its national account statistics for 1984 to 1987, 3/ stated that the steady decline in agricultural production during that period was evidence of inadequate rainfall and the constant drift of young people to the tourist industry. It also noted that the decline in livestock production was attributable to wild dogs destroying the animals, thereby adversely affecting sheep farming in the Territory. Press reports indicate that the problem is quite severe. One livestock owner, who had lost over 1,000 head of livestock since 1986, estimated the total cost to the Territory at around $EC 4 million.

41. In 1989, agricultural production experienced a slight improvement. CDB reported that the contribution of the agriculture sector to the gross domestic product (GDP) rose from $EC 3 million in 1988 to $EC 3.2 million in 1989, although its share declined marginally from 6.3 per cent to 6.2 per cent over that period. Improved performance of this sector in 1989 is attributed to a number of factors, including increased rainfall, the continuing role of CARDATS, additional investments in hydroponics, increased fishing activity and the growth of the tourism sector.

42. Activity in fisheries also showed some improvement in 1989. Increased awareness of the limitations of inshore fishing fostered a greater interest in deep-sea fishing. Among the constraints to the growth of deep-sea fishing, however, were the fishermen's involvement in other activities, the high investment costs compared to expected returns and the unavailability of the requisite training. In order to address the question of training, a Fisheries Adviser financed by the Caribbean Fund for Technical Cooperation was recruited to organize a number of navigational courses. Also, it was hoped that the decision to establish an independent Fisheries Department and marine parks, as well as proposals for the enactment of legislation to regulate offshore fishing, would further improve fishing in Anguilla. 2/

D. Industrial development

43. In 1988, the manufacturing sector continued to be medium- and small-scale and confined to a narrow range of activities, including the production of salt, the construction of wooden boats and other traditional operations. The territorial Government reported that the manufacturing sector was still in its infancy and that it had contributed to GDP the amount of $EC 0.38 million at current prices (or 1.2 per cent) in 1984 and $EC 0.77 million (or 1.5 per cent) in 1987.

44. In May 1990, the Government announced plans to set up a company comprising the Government, members of the public and a foreign investor to run the island's electricity services. 20/ The Government's decision to privatize the electricity system follows the completion of a pre-investment study of the island's electricity needs to the year 2000 by British consultants, which recommended the setting up of a private company as the best way to meet these needs and to provide a reliable, cost-efficient service. The assets of the company would be divided three ways: 40 per cent would be owned by Anguillans, 30 per cent by the Government and 30 per cent would be earmarked for a foreign donor/investor.

45. The Government would select the foreign partner on the basis of its ability to provide funds and technical expertise. The Commonwealth Development Corporation has expressed an interest in being that third party.

46. Based on the tremendous increase in demand for electricity, electrical consultants who carried out the pre-investment study stated that the department should install a fifth one-megawatt generator, as part of its expansion programme. The new unit arrived on Anguilla on 5 February 1990. 21/

E. Transport, communications and other basic facilities

47. The Territory is served by a network of nearly 100 km of all-purpose roads, two major seaports and an airport. During the previous reporting period, several major capital improvement projects were completed and others were in progress. CDB reported that in 1989 there was substantial private investment in the upgrading of the telecommunications infrastructure island-wide. 2/

F. Property and real estate development

48. According to CDB, the contribution of the construction sector increased from 12.3 per cent of GDP to 13 per cent of GDP between 1988 and 1989. Increased residential construction and extensions/renovations to a number of the leading hotels were undertaken in 1989. Growth of the construction sector was, however, constrained by a shortage of labour. The impact was most severe in the hotel subsector where expansion programmes lagged considerably behind schedule. 2/

G. Banking

49. It was announced in September 1990 that CDB would grant a $US 3 million loan to the Anguilla Development Bank, to help it to continue its lending activities in the agricultural, tourism and education sectors. 22/

50. CDB reported that, during the period under review, commercial bank deposits increased from $EC 129.6 million in December 1988 to $EC 145.4 million in December 1989. Loans and advances grew by 49 per cent over the same period to $EC 89.6 million. From 1988 to 1989, loans to the tourism sector rose from $EC 7 million to $EC 14.2 million, loans for house and land purchase from $EC 8.3 million to $EC 19.7 million, and loans for durable and other consumer goods from $EC 7.3 million to $EC 10.3 million. 2/

H. Environment

51. The Territory continued to be faced with illegal sand-mining activities on the part of local construction companies. Local residents complained that sand excavation was ruining the beauty and endangering the ecology of the areas, in addition to threatening the livelihood of fishermen. 4/

52. In January 1990, the Government initiated action through the House of Assembly to acquire land, with a view to preserving and protecting it from further damage. 23/ In a notice published in the press in April 1990, the Government announced that, on 29 December 1989, it had decided to acquire and take possession compulsorily of some land at Meads Bay. The Government requested all persons who in any way had rights to the land to come forward with their claims for compensation. 14/

53. A newspaper report in April 1990 stated that Anguilla would enact strong legislation in May to regulate cruising within its territorial waters, with the intention of preventing environmental damage by careless boaters. 24/

54. In June 1990, a local press report indicated that the Anguillan Government had recently signed a contract with a United States salvage company, the Touring and Salvage Company of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, to remove four shipwrecks from Road Bay Harbour, the island's main deep-water cargo port.

55. The Parliamentary Secretary designate for the Environment said that the venture was an investment in tourism, fisheries and marine conservation, as the vessels would be turned into artificial reefs by sinking them at strategically outlined sites. 25/

I. International business

56. The local press reported in March 1990 that the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs of the United Kingdom had ordered a review of the Territory's financial sector, which was communicated to the Government of Anguilla.

57. The Government accepted the recommendations of the report, and took a number of measures, including:

(a) The formation of a Financial Services Committee, chaired by the Governor, and including the Minister for Finance, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Finance and the Attorney-General;

(b) The establishment of a task force to review the licensing of all banks, except the class A (retail) banks, with the stated aim of demonstrating the Government's commitment to establishing a viable and reputable offshore financial services industry. The Task Force comprises representatives from the Attorney-General's Office, the Ministry of Finance and external technical assistance personnel to help with data processing and accountancy. 26/

58. Anguilla currently has 45 offshore banks, which each pay an annual licence fee ranging from $EC 10,000 to $EC 20,000. There are four class A (retail) banks which, as stated above, were not included in the Task Force review, but which each pays a fee of $EC 12,000 a year. 27/

59. Following the review, Anguilla's international financial services were placed under the authority of the Governor in May 1990 (see paras. 15 and 16 of the present working paper). In July 1990, the Government of Anguilla asked the United Kingdom Government to fund the construction of an offshore financial centre, to house all administrative sections dealing with offshore banking in one building. 28/

60. The publication Caribbean Update recently quoted Mr. Fleming, Minister for Finance, as stating that applications for new bank licences were being received by the Ministry of Finance after the Territory had received United Kingdom assistance in "cleaning up the island's portfolio" and had cancelled 30 licences after conducting a review of 43. He added that the Government also planned new legislation to control the operations of the locally licensed banks. 29/

J. Tourism

61. According to CDB, arrivals of stay-over tourists rose from 28,207 in 1988 to 28,701 in 1989. However, while in 1987 and 1988 these arrivals increased by 26 per cent and 34 per cent respectively, in 1989 the increase was only

2 per cent. The number of excursionists staying for less than one day rose by 4.3 per cent to 43,044, after declining by 18 per cent in 1988. A number of reasons, including the relocation of the ferry boat terminal and the discontinuation of promotion and marketing of Anguilla at the St. Maarten/Saint-Martin ports, can be advanced for this low growth in excursionists. After averaging 28 per cent per annum between 1987 and 1988, the number of stop-over visitors increased by only 16 per cent in 1989. Total visitor arrivals, including all those mentioned above, were estimated at 71,805 in 1989 compared with 69,482 visitors in 1988. Of this total, the United States accounted for 59 per cent of total arrivals, while Canada, the United Kingdom and the rest of the Caribbean accounted for 3.1 per cent, 3.8 per cent and 32 per cent respectively. Tourism earnings rose from $US 24.9 million in 1988 to an estimated $US 31 million in 1989, reflecting the increase in tourist arrivals and in domestic prices. 2/

K. Assistance from organizations and institutions of the United Nations system

62. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) continued to be the main source of development assistance to the Territory within the United Nations system. The country programme for Anguilla approved by the UNDP Governing Council provides the framework for external assistance to Anguilla. In the fourth programming cycle for the period 1986-1991, UNDP provided $US 1.4 million. 30/ The Territory also participates in UNDP multi-island and regional projects for Latin America and the Caribbean. In his budget speech in December 1987, the Minister for Finance commended the significant contribution that UNDP was making to the overall development of the Territory. 31/

63. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) reported that its anticipated level of assistance to Anguilla, both for in-country programmes for family-life education and family planning services and for benefits under the regional projects and programmes, was estimated at $US 31,000 in 1989. The estimated total assistance for the period from 1989 to 1991 is $US 18,500. UNFPA has taken steps to dispatch a programming mission to Anguilla in early 1991 to discuss new project ideas. The Government is interested in UNFPA assistance to reduce teenage pregnancy and to develop programmes for out-of-school adolescents in responsible sexual behaviour and income-generation skills. Also, under a regional project executed by the Caribbean Community Anguilla will receive technical assistance in support of its 1991 population and housing census.

64. The Territory is represented at the annual meetings of the Caribbean Group for Cooperation in Economic Development, sponsored by the World Bank.

65. In March 1989, a regional adviser from the International Labour Organisation (ILO) Caribbean office in Trinidad and Tobago paid a familiarization visit to Anguilla that had been arranged through the Chief Minister's office. The adviser stated that there was tremendous scope for enhancing training facilities in Anguilla, as well as for the promotion and development of small-scale enterprises. He added that he had established contact with agencies and individuals concerned in those areas.

66. The ILO adviser discussed with members of the private and public sectors ways and means whereby ILO might be able to offer its assistance, particularly in the business and industrial sectors. 32/

67. In 1989 and 1990, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) staged a series of workshops and seminars in Anguilla on educational matters. In 1990-1991, UNESCO undertook a literacy survey in Anguilla with UNDP assistance.

68. During 1989 and 1990, the assistance provided by the World Health Organization (WHO) to Anguilla forcused on the Territory's primary health care, strengthening the fellowships programme for the training of personnel, developing local health programmes and providing human resources for the new hospital.

IV. SOCIAL CONDITIONS

A. Labour

69. The development objectives of the Government are aimed at improving the living standards of Anguillans through the development of the Territory's productive potential and the provision of a wide range of employment opportunities (see A/AC.109/1026, para. 73).

70. CDB reported that, as a result of the continued high level of economic activity, the rate of unemployment dropped to 1.1 per cent in 1989. The leading employer remains the tourism sector and related services, although employment in the construction sector has increased dramatically over the past four years. Employment in Anguilla is highly seasonal. A large number of workers hold several jobs because of the scarcity of skills. The increasing demand for labour has exerted some pressure on prices because of its impact on the wage rate, and consequently inflation rose from 4.5 per cent in 1988 to approximately 4.9 per cent in 1989. 2/

71. In March 1990, the Fair Labour Standards Ordinance 1988 which sought to regulate employment practices in Anguilla came into effect. The Department of Labour will ensure the implementation of the new law by reviewing the practices of employees and advising them to conform to the law. The penalties for breaches of the Ordinance are a maximum of six months' imprisonment and a fine of $EC 500. 14/

72. In April 1990, the Anguillan Government put into effect new regulations for tighter control of the issuance of work permits and permanent resident status. The Immigration and Labour Policy 1990 legislation is aimed at curbing the high number of persons who arrive in Anguilla in search of employment, the Commissioner of Labour stated. "The whole legislation is to make it clear to both employer and employee what is expected of them in terms of labour regulations on the island", he said, adding that in 1989 the Government had approved 500 work permits, mostly for nationals from Saint Kitts and Nevis to work in the construction industry, "but there are still many others working without the necessary documents".

73. Under the new policy, applications for new work permits will not be entertained if the applicant is in Anguilla, unless that person is the spouse of an existing work-permit holder who is already in Anguilla. Persons working without a permit are liable to immediate deportation and employers will be subject to prosecution.

74. The new policy also makes it mandatory for owners of major investment projects to acquire work permits. However, they will be granted automatically upon payment of the required fee. 33/

75. Under the new policy, visitors to Anguilla will have to obtain visas that will allow them to spend up to one month in the Territory. The visa can be renewed for up to a maximum of six months.

76. Visitors who own homes in Anguilla will be granted a permit to enter and remain for six months. Permanent resident status can be granted by the Governor, subject to certain conditions. 34/ Prior to its adoption, the new policy was submitted to the people of Anguilla in March 1990 in the form of a discussion paper. 14/

77. In March 1990, the Attorney-General's Office stated that Anguilla was being used as a stepping-stone for Dominican and Haitian illegal immigrants into St. Maarten/Saint-Martin. In addition, some of these Dominicans and Haitians were arriving in Anguilla with forged documents, claiming to be entitled to United Kingdom dependent Territories citizen passports or making applications for work permits. In response, the Government imposed a visa requirement for entry into Anguilla by nationals of Haiti and the Dominican Republic. 35/

B. Public health

78. The Government remained committed to providing primary health care for all Anguillans by the year 2000. The Territory is served by the 24-bed Cottage Hospital and the Princess Alexandria Hospital, a new 36-bed facility financed by the United Kingdom.

79. In May 1989, a dental survey of teenagers between the ages of 15 and 19 was conducted by a team led by a specialist responsible for dental research at the London Royal College of Surgeons and the Medical Research Council of the United Kingdom. 36/

C. Drugs

80. Press reports indicate that although drug use in Anguilla is currently limited to soft drugs such as marijuana, there is evidence of harder drugs, including cocaine, being introduced into the Territory. The Chief of Police is reported to have said that evidence that he had, and the arrest of an individual, showed that hard drugs were being imported when the tourist season was at its height. He noted also that, because of unprotected territorial borders, drug trafficking could pose a problem.

81. On 1 April 1990, Anguillan marine police found 313 kilos of cocaine on Scrub Island, with a street value of approximately $US 6.9 million, and over $US 33 million when this large quantity is transformed to the deadly substance "crack" cocaine. The drug find is the largest in Anguilla, and possibly one of the largest in the region to date. This find supports the belief by United Kingdom, United States and international drug enforcement officials, that small eastern Caribbean islands like Anguilla are being used as transshipment points for drugs from Colombia and South America en route to the United States and Europe.

82. Also in April 1990, two Anguillan residents were arrested after a request for extradition was made by the United States for the two men to face drug charges in the United States. The request was made under a United States-United Kingdom extradition treaty, which also applies to Anguilla as a dependent Territory of the United Kingdom.

83. The United Kingdom and the United States are negotiating at present what is termed a "shipriders agreement". This, as stated by Governor Canty, "is an agreement whereby an officer of the Anguillan Government would be allowed to travel in a United States vessel for the purposes of apprehending any criminals who were committing offences in Anguillan jurisdiction". Under this agreement, the Government of Anguilla would put a police officer, customs officer or immigration officer aboard the United States vessel and would then authorize the vessel to act on behalf of the Government of Anguilla. 14/

84. In July 1990, it was announced that legislation authorizing Anguilla to enter into legal cooperation agreements with the United States concerning drug-trafficking investigations had been approved by the Anguilla House of Assembly in May 1990. The Mutual Legal Assistance United States of America bill, steered through the House by Deputy Governor Alan Hoole, is Anguilla's first step towards participating in a treaty between the United Kingdom and the United States, which is now being extended to the United Kingdom Caribbean Territories. 37/

85. At a ceremony in January 1990, Mr. Michael Bowden of the British Development Division presented Governor Canty with a new police launch. The vessel, which cost approximately $EC 500,000, will be used to carry out search and rescue missions, as well as to patrol the surrounding waters and cays, as a deterrent to drug-trafficking and other sea-related offences. 9/

D. Legal developments

86. In March 1990, Sir Peter A. P. J. Allen, who was commissioned by the United Kingdom Government to carry out a review of the judicial systems in dependent Territories of the Caribbean, namely, Cayman Islands, Montserrat, the British Virgin Islands, Turks and Caicos and Anguilla, visited the Territory. 14/

E. Disaster preparedness and prevention

87. In 1990, a Disaster Preparedness Committee was set up and divided into subcommittees responsible for various areas of disaster preparedness. For instance, there is a subcommittee responsible for mobilizing heavy equipment, such as bulldozers, in the event of a natural disaster. The health subcommittee will be responsible for shelter clinics.

88. The Disaster Preparedness Committee has also made it its duty to contact the various merchants on the island to inform them that they should stock up on items such as flashlight batteries, canned foods, lumber and nails, in order to avoid a heavy demand for these vital items in case of emergency, thus making the situation worse. 11/

89. In June 1990, the local press reported that Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Ltd. in Anguilla had successfully tested its new transportable satellite earth station, as part of its hurricane disaster preparedness programme. This equipment can be set up in 15 minutes to provide full telephone links with the outside world, in the event that a hurricane disrupts the island's telephone links. The earth station was purchased at a cost of $EC 145,000. 24/

V. EDUCATION

90. Education is compulsory for all children between 5 and 14 years of age, and is free at the primary and secondary levels. Mr. David Carty, Parliamentary Secretary designate in the Department of Education, stated in July 1990 that in the preschools there were 303 children and 17 teachers; in the primary schools, there were 1,323 children and 62 teachers, in service, with 11 in training; and in the secondary schools there were 875 students, with 57 in-service teachers and 6 in training. Thus, a total of 2,521 children, or 36 per cent of the population, were now attending school. 11/

91. According to information provided by the United Kingdom on 18 March 1991, five students from Anguilla received educational assistance in the United Kingdom during 1989, under schemes funded by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Overseas Development Administration.

Notes

1/ The information contained in this paper has been derived from published reports and from information transmitted to the Secretary-General by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations on 7 July 1988 for the years 1986 and 1987, and on 16 February 1989 for the years 1984 to 1987. The facts and figures relating to those years, as well as to the year 1988, are the latest information available.

2/ Caribbean Development Bank, Annual Report, 1989 (Barbados).

3/ Anguilla, National Accounts Statistics, 1984-1987, May 1988.

Notes (continued)

4/ Vantage (Anguilla), 8 September 1989.

5/ Anguilla, Report of the Constitution Review Committee (6 April 1988).

6/ Vantage (Anguilla), 17 November 1989.

7/ Ibid., 3 April and 5 May 1989.

8/ The Democrat (Saint Kitts and Nevis), 20 January 1990.

9/ Vantage (Anguilla), 3 February 1990.

10/ The Virgin Islands Daily News, 31 May 1990.

11/ Vantage (Anguilla), 14 July 1990.

12/ Ibid., [no date].

13/ Ibid., 13 March 1989.

14/ Ibid., 25 April 1990.

15/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Fourth Committee, 12th meeting.

16/ The Virgin Islands Daily News, 8 August 1990.

17/ Vantage (Anguilla), 8 September 1990.

18/ The currency of the Territory is the East Caribbean dollar ($EC). One United States dollar ($US 1.00) is equivalent to $EC 2.70.

19/ The Chronicle, 5-6 January 1990.

20/ The Virgin Islands Daily News, 21 May 1990.

21/ Vantage (Anguilla), 28 March 1990.

22/ Caribbean Update (United States of America), September 1990.

23/ Vantage (Anguilla), 6 January 1990.

24/ The Virgin Islands Daily News, 25 April 1990.

25/ Vantage (Anguilla), 11 June 1990.

26/ Ibid., 31 March 1990.

Notes (continued)

27/ Caribbean Insight (United Kingdom), March 1990.

28/ The Virgin Islands Daily News, 21 July 1990.

29/ Caribbean Update (United States of America), February 1991.

30/ DP/CN/ANL/1.

31/ Vantage (Anguilla), 29 August 1988.

32/ Ibid., 20 March 1989.

33/ The Caymanian Compass, 20 April 1990.

34/ The Virgin Islands Daily News, 18 April 1990.

35/ Vantage (Anguilla), 21 March 1990.

36/ Ibid., 26 May 1989.

37/ The Virgin Islands Daily News, 31 July 1990.

38/ Ibid., 29 August and 31 October 1988.

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TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

Working paper by the Secretariat

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I. GENERAL 1/

1. The Turks and Caicos Islands lie south-east of the Bahama Islands and about 145 kilometres north of the Dominican Republic. The Territory consists of two groups of islands separated by Turks Island Passage, a deep-water channel approximately 35 kilometres wide. The Turks Islands are situated east of the passage and the Caicos Islands west of it. The Turks group comprises two inhabited islands, namely, Grand Turk (on which Cockburn Town, the capital, is located) and Salt Cay, as well as eight uninhabited cays and a large number of islets. The principal islands in the Caicos group are North Caicos, South Caicos, Middle (or Grand) Caicos and Providenciales. East Caicos and West Caicos are uninhabited.

2. According to information received from the Office of the Chief Minister of the Islands, the latest census taken in the Territory, on 31 May 1990, registered a population of 11,465, a 54 per cent increase from 7,413 tallied in the 1980 census. A breakdown of the population is given in table 1 below.

Table 1. Resident population by island and age group

Age	Salt Cay	Grand Turk	South Caicos	Middle Caicos	North Caicos	Providen-ciales	Total
0	4	79	32	7	18	119	259
1-4	18	343	117	24	100	414	1 016
5-15	58	812	334	82	380	746	2 412
16-24	22	591	197	24	250	998	2 082
25-49	48	1 351	321	56	317	2 234	4 327
50-64	29	304	100	40	104	218	795
65+	29	211	97	39	106	92	574
Total	208	3 691	1 198	272	1 275	4 821	11 465

Source: Office of the Chief Minister, Turks and Caicos Islands.

II. CONSTITUTION AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

A. Constitution

3. The 1988 Constitution of the Territory provides for a Governor appointed by the Queen, an Executive Council and a Legislative Council. The new Legislative Council consists of 19 members, 3 more than under the previous Constitution. There are 13 elected representatives, 3 members appointed by the Governor and 3 ex officio members of the Executive Council. Under the Constitution, the Governor may appoint three members to the Legislative

Council: one member on the advice of the Chief Minister, another in consultation with the leader of the Opposition and a third at his own discretion.

4. The Turks and Caicos Islands Constitution Order, 1988, conferred powers of administration on the Governor that were usually those of the elected Government. According to the Constitution, the Governor may refuse to assent to legislation or bills passed by the Legislature. He may also enforce bills that have not previously been approved by the Legislature.

5. Following the completion in January 1989 of his initial three-year term as Governor of the Turks and Caicos Islands, Governor Michael J. Bradley received a two-year extension of his appointment, until the end of January 1992. 2/

B. Political parties and elections

6. General elections are held every four years. The general elections of 1988 were contested by candidates from four political parties: the People's Democratic Movement (PDM), the ruling party, the Progressive National Party (PNP), the National Democratic Alliance and the Turks and Caicos United Party. PDM, led by Mr. Oswald Skippings, Chief Minister, won 11 of the 13 seats in the Legislative Council (see A/AC.109/950, paras. 6 and 7). The two remaining seats were won by PNP, now led by Mr. Washington Misick. 3/

C. Future status of the Territory

7. The representative of the administering Power, in a statement before the Fourth Committee of the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session 4/ said that, regardless of the size of a Territory and the numbers of people involved, United Kingdom policy was always guided by the wishes of the inhabitants. The aim of his Government was to ensure that in exercising their rights, the people of the 10 remaining dependent Territories should decide for themselves what kind of political future they wanted. It was up to them to determine whether they wanted independence or wished instead to opt for some other status. In that connection he remarked that it was wrong to equate self-determination solely with independence, since other options were also available. His Government was faithfully fulfilling its obligation under the Charter of the United Nations to develop self-government in its dependent Territories and was assisting its Caribbean dependent Territories to diversify their economies.

D. Public service

8. In his speech from the throne on 13 March 1990, the Governor stated that as a result of a manpower review of the public service carried out in 1989, a number of new posts had been established and existing posts re-graded as of October 1989.

9. In order to strengthen the public service presence on Providenciales, an office of the Chief Secretary is to be established on that island, headed by a Deputy Chief Secretary. The new office will have the responsibility of overseeing the district administration on North and Middle Caicos. The district administration staff would become part of this office, with the District Commissioner's post being changed to that of Assistant Chief Secretary. The Chief Secretary's Office on Grand Turk will continue to supervise the district administration on South Caicos and Salt Cay.

10. Following a review of the police force in April 1989, recruitment of additional officers and the appointment of an additional deputy commissioner from the United Kingdom for a period of two years were recommended. Steps are being taken to implement those recommendations.

11. According to the Governor, the Public Service Commission (PSC), established under the 1988 Constitution, had completed its first two-year term and a new commission was appointed. The Commission continues to aim at ensuring its independence and impartiality, as it advises the Governor on appointments, discipline, training, pay and conditions of service and rules of conduct for the civil service. Steps are being taken to draw up regulations that would preserve the independence and impartiality of the Commission.

12. PSC has an additional responsibility for scholarship awards to civil servants, for both local and overseas training, which it administers through the Public Service Training Board. The Board was established by PSC in 1988 to advise on, and assist in, the supervision of the policies and programmes for the training of public officers at all levels. During the period under review, the Board processed a record number of scholarships in various fields, such as education, middle management, finance and audit, public health, civil aviation, engineering and planning, in institutions in the United Kingdom, the Caribbean and Canada. Since March 1989, the staff Training Unit established in 1987 has been attached to PSC offices and has conducted a number of in-service training courses at all levels on both Providenciales and Grand Turk, with tutors coming from the Civil Service College in London, the University of the West Indies and Systems Caribbean, Ltd., in Barbados.

13. Provision has been made in the territorial budget for the enhancement of civil servants' salaries. The method of payment is being considered, and could be given either in the form of restructuring of salary grades, a flat lump sum, a percentage increase as in previous years or a combination of these.

E. Other developments

14. In April 1990, Mr. Wendal Swann, Minister for Social Services, paid an unofficial visit to United Nations Headquarters, where he met with Secretariat officials. 5/

15. It was reported that Mr. Swann, accompanied by Mr. Hilly Ewing, Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Council, had represented the Government of the

Turks and Caicos Islands at the inaugural session of the Regional Constituent Assembly, held in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines in December 1990. The heads of Government of the founding members of the Assembly, namely, Dominica, Grenada, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, established the Assembly to serve as a forum in which parliamentarians, political parties and special interest groups may hold discussions and make recommendations on the necessity for political union and appropriate institutional arrangements for bringing it into effect. 6/

16. A delegation from the Territory participated in the tenth Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference of Members from Small Countries, held at Harare on 13 and 14 September 1990. The Conference is held annually for parliamentarians from Commonwealth countries with populations of 250,000 or less. The debate during the 1990 Conference, which was attended by participants from 29 Commonwealth countries, focused on problems relating to the increasing cost to small countries of their reliance on large nations for tertiary education and disaster rehabilitation, the ability of small Territories to handle the expense incurred from aging populations and the effects of uncontrolled immigration. On 14 September, the Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Natural Resources of the Territory addressed a session of the Conference devoted to uncontrolled immigration, and stressed the importance for Governments of small States to protect the culture and identity of their countries. 7/

III. ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

A. General

17. The economy of the Turks and Caicos Islands continues to be based primarily on property development, offshore banking, tourism, the export of fish and government expenditure. The Territory also draws considerable external assistance from the United Kingdom, Canada and such international and regional institutions as the European Development Fund and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB). In order to reduce its economic dependence on external assistance, the Government has been expanding both the tourist industry and the Territory's role as an international banking centre.

18. According to CDB, the economy continued its upward trend in 1989, although growth estimated at 3.9 per cent was significantly lower than the 15.8 per cent achieved in 1988. Offshore financial services registered considerable growth as company registrations were substantially increased, and legislation continued to be refined in order to encourage further growth. The central Government recorded a small surplus on its current account and all aid received from the United Kingdom Government was allocated to finance capital expenditure. 8/

19. In his speech from the throne, the Governor stated that the 1989/90 expenditure for development projects was expected to amount to $5.2 million, 9/ leaving a balance of $1 million, which would be expended in 1990/91.

20. The range of projects is diverse, and includes the acquisition of micro-computers; the construction of an extension to the high school, of a teachers' centre on Grand Turk, and of primary roads on North Caicos and secondary roads on South Caicos; the resurfacing of an airport runway; and the appointment of a fire tender on Grand Turk.

21. The first of a monthly series of seminars on how to start and operate a small business was held on 25 April 1990 by the Development Board, in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce, and was attended by participants who are already in business and others intending to go into business. 10/ These seminars are a joint effort of the Development Board and representatives of private and public sectors, such as bankers, accountants, lawyers, insurance agents and representatives of government departments dealing with licences, environmental control and other areas of expertise that would have an impact on the conduct of business. The representatives of the Development Board serve as chairmen of the seminars.

B. Public finance

22. In his budget speech to the Legislature, the Chief Minister on 13 March 1990, stated that during 1989/90 there had been significant growth in revenue, estimated at $21.1 million; expenditure had also increased to $20.8 million. According to government estimates, the level of the bank overdraft has been reduced from a peak of $4.2 million in 1987 to $1.4 million in 1990. Revenue for 1990/91 is expected to rise to $26 million, and it is anticipated that expenditures will amount to $26 million. The data given in table 2 show the performance of the economy since 1987.

Table 2. Country data: Turks and Caicos Islands

(In millions of United States dollars)

Central Government finances	1987	1988	1989
Current revenue	15.1	17.9	20.3
Current expenditure	14.8	17.5	20.0
Current account surplus	0.3	0.4	0.3
Capital expenditure	2.9	6.1	7.0

Source: Turks and Caicos Statistical Yearbook, for the years given.

23. The per capita gross domestic product (GDP) at current prices increased to $4,824 in 1989 from $4,506 in 1988 and $3,902 in 1987. 8/

24. Government finances have improved steadily since 1987 as a result of a significant increase in revenue collections and the growth of the offshore financial services. The strengthening in recent years of the public finances removed the need for budgetary support. All grants from the United Kingdom are now used to assist in financing the Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP). Total public investment planned for the fiscal years 1989/90, 1990/91 and 1991/92 amounts to $52.7 million, an average of $17 million per year. This is almost three times the average of $6 million achieved during the previous three fiscal years. The major areas targeted for development are infrastructure and public administration, including, inter alia, an airport improvement project, the installation of salt-water mains on Grand Turk, the Bight water and sewage scheme, and the construction of houses for government officers on Providenciales. 8/

25. According to the Chief Minister, the Government is dedicated to making the best use of its resources and providing cost-effective service. In that regard, a central purchasing unit was created to provide a service to all government departments, enabling them to achieve cost reductions. The unit is responsible for coordinating the needs of all government departments and implementing a sound procurement policy.

C. International business

26. As recommended by consultants in 1988, a Superintendent of the Offshore Finance Centre, responsible for the regulation of all financial activities and services, was appointed in 1989. Within the framework of a new government regulatory unit, the Center will, inter alia, promote the Territory as a domicile and to monitor, regulate and project its image as a reputable offshore financial centre. 8/ According to the territorial Government, it is expected that a special department for banking and another for insurance will be added.

D. Land tenure, agriculture and livestock

27. The total land area of the Territory is approximately 50,180 hectares. Beach-front properties, amounting to some 2,400 hectares, are owned by private land developers. The Executive Council of the Territory and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom adopted a new land policy designed to facilitate the full and gainful participation of the islanders in the development of the country.

28. In his speech from the throne, the Governor stated that the Ministry of Natural Resources had approved over 300 applications for Crown Land during the year. Progress had been made in arousing public awareness in preserving national parks and the delineation of their boundaries. With the

implementation of a new land policy, there had been a large number of cases of Crown Land requiring valuation for conditional purchase leases. From March 1989 to March 1990, 427 lots with a total value of $4.9 million had been assessed. Work on assessments particularly on Providenciales, continued through the year. There was an increase in demand for the services of the Land Survey Department for both private and public surveys; owing to staff shortages, however, the Department could not meet all of the demands. Some 51 parcels were surveyed, producing $22,394 in revenue. Private surveyors' fees amounted to $3,978, for a total of 248 parcels surveyed. Stamp duty amounted to $2.8 million, registration fees to $70,000 and land sales to $40,000. According to the Chief Minister, it is estimated that in 1990/91 total revenue in land registration services will amount to $3.3 million.

29. The agriculture sector is small and limited to subsistence farming for the local market. More than 90 per cent of the food consumed in the Territory is imported from the United States of America, Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Limited farming activities are carried out on North Caicos and Middle Caicos and, to a lesser extent, on Providenciales and Grand Turk.

30. CDB suggests that, despite the basically poor quality of the soil, a field investigation should be made by specialists in the agricultural sector in order to determine exactly which crops could be grown and what kind of assistance would be required to transform subsistence activities into commercial farming. There are only two commercial farms in the Territory. 11/

31. Natural resources constraints, such as low and unreliable rainfall and thin, stony soils, make large-scale root crop farming difficult. According to CDB, however, this does not preclude the possibility of thriving livestock farming activities, such as poultry and pig farms. Those activities could foster the further development of such agro-industrial activities as meat packing and feed processing. 11/

32. In an effort to facilitate a greater flow of farm produce to other islands in the Territory, the Minister for Commerce and Development proposed the formation of a new farming cooperative for North and Middle Caicos. The cooperative project, which was scheduled to begin in 1991, provided for the opening of a depot at Kew to which farmers could take their produce. The cooperative would ensure distribution of the produce, make payments and handle other related matters. It would also distribute seeds to farmers and import trees from the Bahamas, Santo Domingo and Jamaica. The Minister also disclosed plans for a tree-planting programme for the whole of Turks and Caicos Islands. 12/ An area of 11,000 hectares covering parts of North, Middle and East Caicos has been designated as wetlands of international importance aimed at protecting the green turtle and West Indian whistling duck, both of which are endangered species. 13/

E. Fisheries

33. Fishing is one of the most important primary economic activities in the Territory. Its main commodities are lobster and conch. This industry provides all of the Territory's exports and is an important source of employment.

34. In his speech from the throne, the Governor stated that a Development Aid project, programmed for four years, was initiated to acquire a research vessel to identify underexploited fish stocks, to build an ice plant on South Caicos and to provide technical support to the Fisheries Department.

35. During 1989/90, 208 tons of lobster and 668 tons of conch were caught. Revenue collected from local licences amounted to $45,766 and that from foreign vessels to $8,899.

36. Total exports have declined steadily since 1985 which, according to CDB, is attributed to a reduction in conch and lobster fishing and to overexploitation. The problem is compounded by damage to the spawning grounds caused by certain types of fishing practices, which include the use of dynamite to increase catches and the addition of substances such as chlorine bleach to stimulate the movement of conch and lobster into the traps. Those illegal practices are difficult to control. The recent purchase of police launches provides some means of monitoring, but may not be sufficient. 8/

37. CDB holds the view that an education programme aimed at providing information on the negative effects of current fishing practices should be instituted as part of a package to conserve the resource. In addition, fishermen should be encouraged to exploit the vast reserves of scale fish in the surrounding waters. Scale fish, of both the pelargic and demersal species, can be frozen and exported, particularly to the United States. In addition, smaller varieties can be salted and marketed in other Caribbean islands.

38. In March 1990, the Minister for Natural Resources paid a five-day visit to the United Kingdom to meet government and other officials, as well as representatives of environmental organizations and the fishing industry, and visited fish markets and oyster farms. 14/

F. Mineral resources

39. Mineral resources of the Territory are very limited. One of the development policies of the Government for the period from 1987 to 1997 is to explore fully the Territory's resources and to conclude agreements for the extraction of those minerals that might exist in commercial quantities. Aragonite deposits on West Caicos have been identified as an important resource, which is to be exploited by a Japanese firm. It is expected that the project, should it materialize, would stimulate industrial activity in the Territory. 8/

G. Tourism

40. Tourism continued to be the main source of revenue for the Territory. As such, the Government accords a high priority to the carefully planned development of tourism.

41. The Governor, in his speech from the throne, said that after very careful consideration, the Government had decided to abolish the Tourist Board as of 31 March 1990. The Government's tourism policy would be implemented as from 1 April by a newly formed Department of Tourism, headed by a director. That Department would be part of the Chief Minister's portfolio as Minister for Tourism. The Governor further stated that tourism represented increased job opportunities and that the Government's declared policy was one of equal opportunity for Turks and Caicos Islanders.

42. The Chief Minister, in his capacity as Minister for Tourism, attended the World Travel Market Tourism Fair, held in London, in December 1990. While in London, he held discussions with government officials responsible for various departments in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office on a wide range of issues relating to the Turks and Caicos Islands. He also held a series of press conferences. 6/

43. In his speech from the throne, the Governor stated that the European Community had approved a loan of approximately $5 million to the Government of the Bahamas for the establishment at Nassau of a regional hotel and catering school, which would allocate places for qualified young people from the Turks and Caicos Islands to acquire technical training in all aspects of the industry. Furthermore, tourism-related subjects were being introduced in secondary schools in the Territory as a prerequisite to hotel and catering education.

44. According to CDB, the number of visitor arrivals in 1989 rose by a modest 5.2 per cent to 49,510, compared with 28 per cent in 1988. This is attributed to the relatively slow growth of visitors from the United States during the year. Despite overseas promotion, arrivals from Europe continued to account for only 2 per cent of total arrivals and the industry remained heavily dependent on the United States market. In his speech from throne, the Governor stated that the island of Providenciales continued to receive over 80 per cent of all visitors, the majority of whom vacation at the 600-bed Club Méditerranée Resort (see table 3). It is estimated that these tourists produced direct and indirect government revenue of approximately $3.64 million, a very significant contribution to the economy.

45. According to CDB, with the exception of Providenciales, hotel occupancy rates, on average, did not exceed 30 per cent during the period under review. This problem is especially significant on Grand Turk and South Caicos and primarily affects the smaller establishments. The main reasons appear to be inadequate promotion by the establishments and limited recreational facilities. In order to minimize the cost of promotion, the small establishments have been advised to pool their resources for the specific purpose of promoting themselves in the international market. 8/

Table 3. Tourism statistics, 1987-1989

Destination of visitors	1987	1988	1989 a/
Providenciales	27 838	38 207	40 372
Grand Turk	5 966	5 695	5 963
South Caicos	2 523	2 865	2 756
North Caicos	320	312	419
Total	36 647	47 079	49 510

Source: Tourist Board; Tourism Development Plan, Coopers and Lybrand, July 1986; and CDB estimates.

a/ Estimated.

H. Communications and other basic facilities

46. Communications and other basic facilities are important to the Territory in terms of both maintaining contact between the inhabited islands and servicing the economy of the Territory, which depends on tourism, offshore banking and the activities of the business community.

47. The Chief Minister, in his budget address to the Legislature, stated that the cost of executing projects scheduled for commencement during 1990/91 had exceeded $11 million. Among the projects are the resurfacing of an airport runway and dredging on Salt Cay: the construction of a medical centre, government housing and offices on Providenciales; the construction of port facilities and a new town jetty on Grand Turk, as well as improvements to the high school; and the construction of primary roads on Middle Caicos and of government offices on South Caicos. As the total expenditure planned was well in excess of the agreed £3.5 million (or $5.9 million), the Chief Minister proposed that the United Kingdom Government should review the allocation in view of the newly identified needs.

Roads

48. At the end of 1989, the total length of roads in the Territory was 547 kilometres, and their distribution by island was as follows: Grand Turk, 79 kilometres; Salt Cay, 12 kilometres; South Caicos, 45 kilometres; Middle Caicos, 64 kilometres; North Caicos, 130 kilometres; and Providenciales, 137 kilometres. Although there is no formal classification of roads in the Territory, each inhabited island has running through most of its length a main road from which secondary or access roads and tracks branch out. The Governor announced that the extensive road work undertaken and completed during 1989 had generated much employment and had improved the appearance of Grand Turk and Providenciales.

49. Press reports indicate that, according to police records, there are currently over 1,500 registered vehicles on Providenciales, and that an average of 15 vehicles were being imported to the island monthly. 10/

Sea

50. There are small harbours on Grand Turk and Providenciales, as well as docking facilities on North Caicos, South Caicos and Salt Cay. Middle Caicos has no docking facilities. Most materials required for the physical development of the island, as well as durable and other bulk consumer goods, are imported by sea. The majority of vessels calling at the ports of the Territory operate from the United States or the Dominican Republic. A new sea ferry link from North Caicos via Parrot Cay to Providenciales is being promoted.

51. In 1989, the administering Power indicated that a sea wall was being constructed on South Caicos. According to the Governor, consultants have prepared a report on the sea walls on Grand Turk and have made recommendations for their repair and strengthening.

Air

52. According to the territorial Government, there are six airstrips in the Turks and Caicos Islands, of which only the one located on Salt Cay remains unpaved, while the airstrip on Middle Caicos is partially paved. Air transport is heavily relied upon for carrying both passengers and goods between the islands. Links with outside countries are provided by major airports on Grand Turk and Providenciales and to a lesser extent, a small airport on South Caicos.

53. According to the Governor, the construction of the air traffic control tower on Grand Turk was at an advanced stage. Proposals had been accepted in principle and detailed plans were being prepared for the renovation of the runway on Providenciales. This project would cost approximately £5 million and would require most careful timing of the work so as to keep the runway in service while work was in progress. In addition, a project for the extension and improvement of the existing terminal on Providenciales was being considered.

54. According to press reports, 10/ the national carrier, Turks and Caicos National Airline, Ltd., has announced the addition of a second turboprop to its fleet. The new aircraft, with a seating capacity of 20, will be used mostly on international routes and will reduce the present flight time by 50 per cent. The Executive Council also has approved a proposal for Cayman Airways, Ltd., to operate a thrice-weekly schedule round-trip air service from Miami/Fort Lauderdale, Florida, to Providenciales. 15/

55. The format of a new agreement with the Intergovernmental Philatelic Corporation of New York is expected to be concluded shortly to produce and market Turks and Caicos Islands postal stamps. The Philatelic Bureau is to be re-established to provide additional employment and revenue to the Government.

56. Renovation work is expected to commence on the government printery which would be furnished with modern printing equipment.

Telecommunications and meteorology

57. At the last sitting of the Legislative Council, the Chief Minister presented a bill relating to the new tariff structure, which was passed as the Public Telecommunications Bill, 1990. Cable and Wireless (West Indies), Ltd., announced that, effective 1 July 1990, there would be a reduction in telephone rates, in keeping with a new agreement that the company hoped to sign with the Government. 12/

58. According to the Governor, the Government has completed negotiations with the Cable and Wireless company on improved telecommunication services, new rates and charges and a new licence.

59. As of March 1990, there were 2,000 telephone subscribers in the Territory. 2/

60. According to press reports, 3/ 14 staff members of Cable and Wireless (West Indies), Ltd., from both Grand Turk and Providenciales completed a three-day training course in supervisory skills at work. The course covered essential skills of worker supervision.

61. An automated weather station was being erected on Providenciales to provide accurate observations, which are particularly needed during hurricane season.

62. According to officials of Turks and Caicos Utilities, wind generators could serve as an alternative source of energy, but not as a replacement for diesel power. While surveys are yet to be conducted as to the dependability of year-round winds on the islands, wind turbines have been shown to be reliable for approximately nine months of the year. A recent study by a consultant commissioned by Turks and Caicos Utilities envisages four 10-kilowatt wind turbines to be constructed on Salt Cay, at an estimated cost of $250,000. 14/

I. Assistance from organizations of the United Nations system and other international institutions

63. Several United Nations bodies and specialized agencies provide assistance to the Territory. Such assistance is coordinated and carried out within the framework of inter-agency consultations between the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). The Territory also receives aid from the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO).

64. Within the United Nations system, UNDP continues to be the main source of technical assistance to the Territory. For the second country programme for the Territory, covering the period 1987-1991, the UNDP Governing Council approved a total of $997,015, of which $165,500 was committed to restoration and repair, following a hurricane in 1985.

65. In 1989, projects executed by UNESCO within the framework of the UNDP country programme included teacher training in technical subjects and strengthening the educational system; and in 1990 such projects included funding for equipment and tools for the technical/vocational department and assistance for the funding of a materials production workshop, as well as a multi-island technical and vocational development project.

66. Assistance provided by UNFPA within the UNDP framework for 1989 to 1991 amounted to $14,059, covering maternal and child health/family planning, population policy and assistance to a national consultative meeting on population policy formulation.

67. In 1989, ILO provided a social security planning consultant whose report was accepted by the Government. Subsequently, UNDP approved a project proposal on the introduction of a social security scheme prepared on the basis of the recommendation of the consultant. By August 1990, a social security expert had been identified and arrangements for the recruitment of other personnel were nearing completion. In 1990, ILO also contributed to the drafting of labour legislation (Draft Order under Employment Ordinance) in the Territory.

68. UNICEF assistance for 1989 amounted to $35,900. For 1990, the sum of $30,000 was allocated for projects relating to early childhood development, maternal and child health, and water and sanitation.

69. The Deputy Chief Minister of the Territory headed a delegation to the tenth meeting of the Caribbean Group for Co-operation in Economic Development, held from 23 to 27 April 1990 at the headquarters of the World Bank in Washington. The meeting was held to match the requirements of Caribbean countries with agencies willing to assist with their economic development. 16/

IV. SOCIAL CONDITIONS

A. Labour and immigration

70. The Government is the largest employer, with 31 per cent of the active labour force holding government jobs. Agriculture and fisheries account for 18.5 per cent of the labour force, the hotel and restaurant industry employs 15.2 per cent and the construction and installation sector together employ 12.7 per cent. The manufacturing, commerce, transport and communication, insurance and real estate sectors employ, in sum, 13 per cent of the work force.

71. According to CDB, the unemployment rate in the Territory for 1988 was estimated at 12 per cent; substantial disparities existed, however, among the various islands. The rate on Providenciales was estimated at 4 per cent, compared with an estimated 33 per cent on South Caicos. While job opportunities existed on Providenciales, there were impediments to the movement of workers from the Caicos Islands to Providenciales.

Immigration

72. The influx of illegal immigrants from neighbouring islands, either for political or economic reasons, continued during the year.

73. On 2 May 1990, the Legislative Council enacted an immigration bill, which provided for new methods of dealing with work permit applications, the establishment of an immigration board, the redesignation of the post of Chief Immigration Officer to Director of Immigration and the introduction of a firm policy on the whole question of immigration.

74. The Immigration Board, comprising nine members, was established on 1 October 1990 and began taking decisions on applicatoins for work permits submitted by aliens. 6/

75. In May 1990, under the authority conferred upon it by the Immigration Board, the Immigration Department carried out an unannounced inspection of a job site to check for workers without work permits. 16/

B. Public health and environment

76. The National Health Plan (1987-1991) was prepared as a guideline for upgrading the health services, with particular emphasis on primary health care. According to the Governor, there were some achievements, including the preparation of a human resource development plan for the training of health care professionals with assistance from PAHO and WHO; the extension and renovation of the government clinic at Conch Bar, Middle Caicos; the installation of a computerized health management information system at Grand Turk hospital in January 1990 and in February 1990 of a computerized chemical analyser, funded by the Canadian International Development Agency, which allows the hospital to perform virtually any test and facilitates fast and accurate diagnoses.

77. Since 1985, 369 persons in the Turks and Caicos Islands have been known to be infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), according to a report by the Chief Medical Officer. 3/

78. The Water Department has launched a comprehensive conservation programme to eliminate gradually water shortages. The wells at the Bight on Providenciales have been capped in order to manage the resources more effectively, and desalination plants are being installed on Providenciales and

Grand Turk. As a result of this programme, according to the Chief Minister, revenue from the sale of water should increase from $100,000 to $370,000 in 1990/91.

79. The Environmental Health Department received funding from the United States Agency for International Development and a Canadian fund to purchase waste water monitoring equipment for Grand Turk, Providenciales and South Caicos.

C. Social and welfare services

80. The Ministry of Social Services has initiated an intensive revitalization programme aimed at creating the necessary framework to help prepare youth more effectively for entry into the work force; to provide more relevant forms of education designed to reduce skilled manpower shortages; to promote self-reliance and responsible entrepreneurial capacity for self-employment and community development; and to reduce unemployment and revitalize national development.

81. In July 1989, a British Development Division team examined the welfare benefits system and all other policies and programmes within the Social Welfare Department, as envisaged in the Governor's speech from the throne in 1988 and 1989 and recommended the formation of a welfare board in each island and the upgrading of the present rate of payments to welfare recipients.

82. In June 1989, a representative of the Commonwealth Youth Programme reviewed the existing services provided for youth throughout the Turks and Caicos Islands and recommended the retention of a consultant from the Commonwealth Youth Programme, who should visit the islands for a short period to formulate and implement policy concerning youth and to provide guidelines for creating a department of youth, sports, and culture. The Programme continues to provide training assistance towards a certificate course in youth work. This course is designed to equip young people for leadership roles in youth and social work.

83. During the year under review, significant progress was made in the development of services for the disabled. The fund for services to the disabled increased from $15,000 to $40,000. A United Kingdom specialist in special education paid a four-week visit to the Territory. A special curriculum and programmes for disabled children were developed and a seminar relating to the disabled was held. A new disabled persons bill was enacted to protect disabled adults from neglect and abuse. A centre for the disabled was opened on Providenciales and two experts were appointed to the centre. Two special education teachers were appointed on Grand Turk and North Caicos. The first school-based special education class was started on North Caicos and a new day-care centre was opened on South Caicos.

84. On 6 September 1989, the Executive Council established a national Drug Council, inter alia, to review the overall drug situation in the Territory; to formulate and implement action plans to educate the public on drugs, including

alcohol, and their related problems; and to coordinate anti-drug camapaigns and other preventive measures for youth groups. The Council's terms of reference also included identification of problem areas, and the resources needed to tackle those problems; making recommendations for government policy on drugs and drug abuse; and establishing international links with other such councils or agencies.

85. The prison population in the Grand Turk prison increased from about 25 to 45 during the period under review. As a result, plans have been drawn up for building a new prison within the next two or three years, to be funded by the United Kingdom Government, with separate facilities for women and juveniles.

86. During the year, a high-powered police patrol boat was acquired and officers are currently being trained to operate it. It is planned to have customs and immigration officers serve as crew members to emphasize the prevention of illegal drugs and illegal immigration into the Islands.

87. The Minister for Social Services, the President of the National Drug Council and the Chief Environmental and Health Officer attended the World Ministerial Drugs Summit aimed at reducing the demand for drugs and combating the cocaine threat, held in London, from 9 to 11 April 1990. A comprehensive draft treaty launching an international campaign was adopted unanimously by the 112 nations attending the summit. 17/

88. The United Kingdom Government continues to assist the local Governments in the Caribbean area in preventing drug trafficking; in 1990, the last of four new 15-metre police launches went into service in the United Kingdom dependent Territories in the Caribbean. A two-man Royal Navy team, funded by the United Kingdom Foreign and Commonwealth Office at a cost of £90,000, is currently training the launch crews on the Turks and Caicos Islands, Montserrat and Anguilla. The Ministry of Defence has also provided weapons training for crews on these police launches. 5/

D. Education

89. There are two main levels in the Turks and Caicos Islands educational system, namely, primary and secondary. Children receive seven years of primary schooling between 4 and 12 years of age. Secondary education at the three public high schools in the Territory lasts for five years. Education is free and compulsory for children up to the age of 15 years. A private commercial college was functioning on Grand Turk.

90. During the year under review, a curriculum officer and a senior education officer were appointed with responsibility for educational planning and projects. Teacher upgrading continues to be strengthened through the Academic Upgrading Programme.

91. Personnel provided by the British Development Division enabled the Department of Education to conduct a series of seminars that focused on the teaching of the English language in primary schools. With the aid of the

British Development Division, Barbados, the Department has launched an intensive building and refurbishing programme for a number of primary and secondary schools throughout the Islands.

92. The School for Field Studies on South Caicos, the first university-level institution, enrolled its first students in February 1990. Twenty-six university students from the United States attended a three-month course on marine issues. The School is devoted exclusively to marine environmental studies. 5/ A private commercial college continued to operate on Grand Turk.

93. On 25 August 1989, the Government concluded an agreement with the Ministry of Education in the Bahamas, under which qualified students from the Territory can attend the College of the Bahamas on scholarships provided by the Government of the Bahamas. Five students were accepted in September 1989 to pursue courses leading to the General Certificate of Education at the Advanced (A) level and associate's degree. Two scholarships are again available to qualified students to study Hospitality Management at the University of Cape Breton at Nova Scotia, Canada. Two students were awarded scholarships in 1989.

94. Under a Turks and Caicos National Scholarship Fund Programme, established by the Executive Council on 1 November 1989, two students are currently attending courses in Jamaica.

95. According to information provided by the United Kingdom on 18 March 1991, 16 students from the Turks and Caicos Islands received educational assistance in the United Kingdom during 1989, under schemes funded by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Overseas Development Administration.

96. In February 1990, the Chief Minister's Office announced that the Executive Council had approved the creation of a Turks and Caicos national museum, to be situated in one of the oldest buildings in the Territory. The Museum is expected to be open to the public in October 1991. 16/

Notes

1/ The information contained in the present paper has been derived from published reports and from information transmitted to the Secretary-General on 4 April 1990 by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations.

2/ Turks and Caicos News, 13 April 1990.

3/ Ibid., 22 December 1990.

4/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Fourth Committee, 12th meeting.

5/ Turks and Caicos News, 25 April 1990.

Notes (continued)

6/ Ibid., 8 December 1990.

7/ The Parliamentarian, Journal of the Parliaments of the Commonwealth, January 1991, LXXII, No. 1.

8/ The Caribbean Development Bank, Annual Economic Report, 1989 (Turks and Caicos Islands).

9/ The local currency is the United States dollar ($US).

10/ Turks and Caicos News, 11 May 1990.

11/ Caribbean Development Bank, Annual Economic Report, 1988.

12/ Turks and Caicos News, 26 May 1990.

13/ Caribbean Insight, December 1990.

14/ Turks and Caicos News, 31 March 1990.

15/ Ibid., 8 December 1990 and 17 January 1991.

16/ Ibid., 19 May 1990.

17/ Turks and Caicos News, 13 April and 19 May 1990.